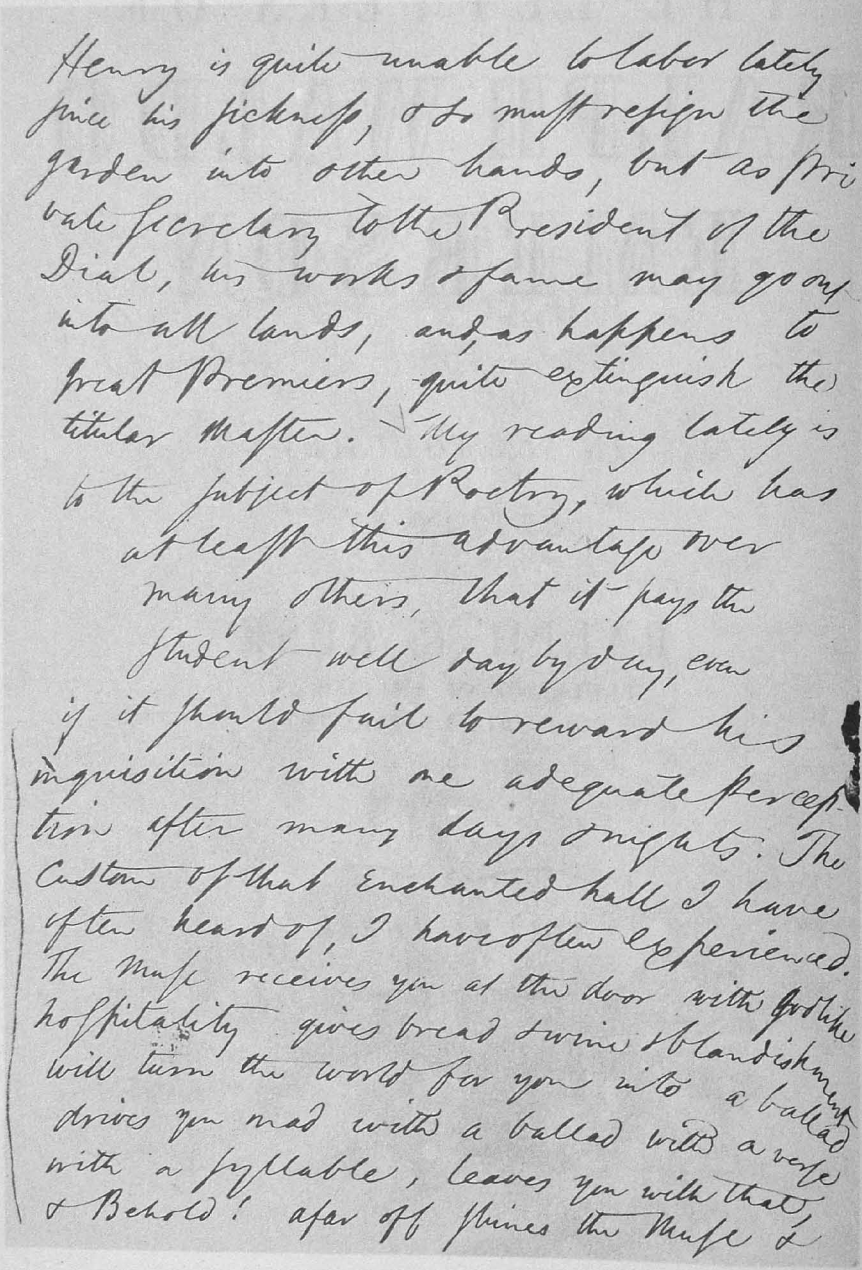
# THE LETTERS OF
# RALPH WALDO EMERSON



Henry is quite unable to labor lately since his sickness, & must resign the garden into other hands, but as Private Secretary to the President of the Dial, his works & fame may go out into all lands, and, as happens to great Premiers, quite extinguish the titular master. My reading lately is to the subject of Poetry, which has at least this advantage over many others, that it pays the student well day by day, even if it should fail to reward his inquisition with an adequate perception after many days & nights. The Custom of that Enchanted hall I have often heard of, I have often experienced. The Muse receives you at the door with Gothic hospitality gives bread & wine & blandishment will turn the world for you into a ballad drives you mad with a ballad with a verse with a syllable, leaves you with that & Behold! afar off shines the Muse &

*Facsimile Page of Letter to Margaret Fuller*
*April 10, 1842*

# THE LETTERS OF
# RALPH WALDO EMERSON

*IN SIX VOLUMES*

*EDITED BY*

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# THE LETTERS OF
# RALPH WALDO EMERSON
## 1842–1847

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# 1842

## To William Emerson, Boston, January 14, 1842 [1]

Boston 14 Jan 1842

Dear William

Now for these seven weeks for I read my seventh lecture last night [2] I have had no skill to write any letter that was not necessary & so have trusted to your loving construction of my silence that we were all rejoiced to know of the advent & the good promise of the babe [3] & would as quick as any of our mute tribe got to the use of pen & paper signify our sympathy & hope. We are all grieved to find that no letter has yet gone from us Twice I have bro't the little pacquet (which I believe contains some letters) to town with strict injunctions that I was to add a letter to it with my own hands & forward it. But slave to my poor lecture on Thursdays & to my multitudinous Memoranda of errands on Fridays I carried my pacquet duly home again in the bottom of my sack; until last night I met at Miss Fuller's your historical orator Mr Eames who I understand has made some brilliant appearance here before the Diffusion or other Societies & I engaged him to carry the pacquet [4] that is to certify you of our still inhabiting these hither shores of time & space of our love & good hope for you & Susan & the three boys, – on whom may all blessings fall! – doubt not.

We are all well at home all saddened by a tragedy that befel our neighboring Thoreau family this week in the death of John Thoreau Jr by lockjaw.[5] He was Henry's elder brother. –

1. MS owned by Mr. Edward Waldo Forbes; ph. in CUL.

2. "Relation of Man to Nature" (see the note on Nov. 30, 1841).

3. Charles Emerson, William's third son, who appears in many later letters.

4. According to the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Jan. 12 and 13, 1842, Charles Eames, of New York, was to lecture on "The Spirit of American History" before the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge on the 12th, and was to address the Boston Lyceum on the following evening. The superscription shows that this letter was to be sent in his care.

5. John Thoreau died Jan. 11, 1842 (Thoreau, *The Writings*, VII, 321).

Elizabeth is well: Your books for Aunt Mary arrived safely; but I kept them to read & they have not left T. W. H's [6] yet. I will explain it to Aunt. In haste.

Your affectionate
Waldo.

I end my course next week. But I think I will not cast my hook in your great bay, but if I find on reckoning my estate that I need pence I will go into the provinces, say Providence. And next Winter your Mr Eames promises me I shall come to New-Y [7]

## To William Emerson, Concord, January 24, 1842 [8]

Concord 24 Jan. 1842

Dear William,

Last Thursday night ended my little Winter campaign [9] and so relieves me of my hurry sufficiently that I may spread a sheet for other human purposes than for the Masonic Temple – an altar of my sacrifices now for many years. Mr Lewis offers to carry letters & you shall at least have the assurance that we are living, loving & hoping. Moreover that the great Locomotive Demon remembers us or we are mindful of him so far that all Concord is agitated this day & for weeks past with project of a railway from Boston hither & so on to Fitchburg [10] This day a man begged of me to subscribe to its stock – today in vain.

My pleasure at getting home on Saturday night at the end of my task was somewhat checked by finding that Henry Thoreau who has been at his fathers since the death of his brother was ill & threatened with *lockjaw!* his brothers disease. It is strange – unaccountable – yet the symptoms seemed precise & on the increase. You may judge we were all alarmed & I not the least who have the highest hopes of this youth. This morning his affection be it what it may, is relieved essentially, & what is best, his own feeling of better health established. – By todays mail I

6. T. W. Haskins's, no doubt.

7. The letters of Feb. and Mar., 1842, tell of Emerson's courses in Providence and New York.

8. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

9. With "Prospects" (see the note on Nov. 30, 1841).

10. On Jan. 11 over one hundred delegates attended a meeting at Waltham in support of the projected railway from Boston to Fitchburg; and John Keyes, of Concord, presided (*Concord Freeman*, Jan. 21, 1842). The letter of Apr. 24, 1843, tells of the progress of actual construction of this road.

got a letter from Carlyle [11] & one from John Sterling both with good news enough of them & theirs. Sterling will presently send me a new tragedy of his " the Earl of Strafford." [12] T. C. sends me from time to time flattering accounts of my little book in England & especially from the bookseller that it sells steadily. & will give me in due time a money return from London! The morning paper also announces the arrival of Dickens. The young men are to give him a dinner in Boston & have honored me with an invitation.[13] I have however the intention of going to Providence with my new course of lectures – possibly to Plymouth also – so far will the love of *paying debts* draw me. In Boston my course has paid me about $320.00 or about $40. for each lecture. One year I received $57.00 And I find by my best ciphering that I stand in need of about $200.00 more. So I have told you all the gossip I can think of about myself. We are all happy to hear from you again as we did twice at the end of last week & Waldo & Ellen were in raptures with Willies magic lantern. Your endless giving seemed even to have struck Waldo, for he was telling his Mother something to put in his letter to Willie that " he had so many things that he did not wish Willie to give him another present unless he wanted to very much." His mother made him repeat the saying to me when I went up stairs, and though I saw, it came only out of a loving heart & a momentary feeling of fulness, I told him that I would not write that down lest Willie should not feel that he had made him happy. Dear love to Susan & to the three brave boys.

Waldo –

11. Probably Carlyle, Dec. 6, 1841 (*C–E Corr.*), or a later letter now lost.

12. Sterling says in his letter of Dec. 28, 1841 (*A Correspondence*), that he hopes to send *Strafford* soon.

13. The *Boston Daily Advertiser,* Jan. 24, 1842, reported that Dickens had arrived at Boston in the " Britannia " the preceding Saturday, Jan. 22. George T. Bigelow, Nathan Hale, Jr., J. F. Barrett, Fred. W. Crocker, and W. W. Story, the " board of managers " of a dinner which was to be given to Dickens on some date as yet uncertain, sent Emerson a mimeographed letter of invitation, dated Jan. 17, to which he probably replied. He did not begin his lectures in Providence until after this dinner, which was given " in magnificent style " on Feb. 1 (*Boston Daily Advertiser,* Feb. 3, 1842). Among " about two hundred " present were many prominent men but apparently not Emerson, who may well have given up all thought of attending after Waldo's death on Jan. 27. And though letters were read from other absentees, I find no notice of a letter from Emerson. *Cf.* also the note on Jan. 28 following to Elizabeth Peabody.

### To Lucy Jackson Brown, Concord, January 27, 1842 [14]

Concord 27 Jan 1842
Thursday Night

Dear Lucy,

Our darling is de[ad.] Waldo was attacked on Monday nig[ht wi]th scarlatina and died this evening. E[lle]n has symptoms of the disorder today. But my boy is gone. Lidian is very well and her babe. Your affectionate brother

R. W. E.

### To William Emerson, Concord, January 27, 1842 [15]

My dear brother,

My little Waldo died this evening. He was attacked by the *scarletina* on Monday night. Little Ellen has the eruption today but is not yet seriously sick. But what shall I say of my Boy? Farewell & Farewell! Lidian is very well, & Mother. Your affectionate brother

Waldo –

Thursday Night 10 o'clock
27 Jan.

### To Abel Adams, Concord, January 27, 1842 [16]

Thursday Night, Jan 27.

My dear friend,

My little boy died this evening. He has been ill with *scarlatina* since Monday night. My darling my darling!

Will you insert in the newspaper [17] that Waldo, son of R Waldo Emerson died on Thursday of scarlatina.

Mrs A & Abby will grieve for their little favorite. R. W. E.
Abel Adams.

Can you send the enclosed [18] by mail tomorrow?

14. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The MS has been injured by fire, and the portions of the text here printed in brackets are illegible in the original. The *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Jan. 29, 1842, announced the death: "In Concord, Ms. on Thursday, of scarlatina, Waldo, son of R. Waldo Emerson, 5 yrs 3 months."

15. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

16. MS owned by Miss Isabella T. Whitman; ph. in CUL.

17. See the note on the letter of the same date to Mrs. Brown. The statement for the newspaper is marked with a rough line in the left margin.

18. Apparently the letters of the same date to William Emerson and to Lucy

To Charles Thomas Jackson, Concord, January 27, 1842 [19]

Dr Charles T. Jackson.

My dear Sir,

Our little Waldo died this evening: — of scarlatina, with which he was attacked on Monday night. Ellen seems to be affected to-day with the same disease. Farewell & farewell to our dear boy. Lidian is well & the babe.

Your affectionate brother,
R. W. Emerson.

Thursday Night —
27 [20] Jan. 1842 —

To Mary Moody Emerson, Concord, January 28, 1842 [21]

Concord, 28 January, 1842.

My dear Aunt,

My boy, my boy is gone. He was taken ill of Scarlatina on Monday evening, and died last night. I can say nothing to you. My darling & the world's wonderful child, for never in my own or another family have I seen any thing comparable, has fled out of my arms like a dream. He adorned the world for me like a morning star, and every particular of my daily life. I slept in his neighborhood & woke to remember him. Elizabeth was his foster mother filled his heart always with love & beauty which he well knew how to entertain [22] and he distinguished her arrival always with the gravest joy.

This thought pleases me now, that he has never been degraded by us or by any, no soil has stained him he has been treated with respect & religion almost, as really innocence is always great & inspires respect. But I can only tell you now that my angel has vanished. You too will grieve for the little traveller, though you scarce have seen his features.

Farewell, dear Aunt.

Waldo E.

---

Brown, both of which bear Boston postmarks dated Jan. 28. The other letters, to Boston addresses, were probably carried to town by a friend or the stage driver, as they were not postmarked.

19. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

20. The " 27," certainly correct, is written over " 29."

21. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Already the lines of " Threnody," not completed till long afterwards, were beginning to appear in the prose of this letter.

22. Here Emerson left part of a line blank, possibly intending to fill it in before he mailed the letter.

### To Margaret Fuller, Concord, January 28, 1842 [23]

Concord, 28 Jan. 1842.

Dear Margaret,

My little boy must die also. All his wonderful beauty could not save him. He gave up his innocent breath last night and my world this morning is poor enough. He had *Scarlatina* on Monday night. Shall I ever dare to love any thing again. Farewell and Farewell, O my Boy!

W.

### To Elizabeth Hoar, Concord, January 28, 1842 [24]

Friday Morning

Dear Elizabeth Everything wakes this morning but my darling Boy. I hope you are better & can come & see us. But your boy you shall not see.

W.

### To Elizabeth Palmer Peabody, Concord, January 28, 1842 [25]

Thanks for your kind invitation, my friend, but the most severe of all afflictions has befallen me, in the death of my boy. He has been ill since Monday of what is called Scarlet Fever & died last night & with him has departed all that is glad & festal & almost all that is social even, for me, from this world. My second child is also sick, but I cannot in a lifetime incur another such loss. Farewell.

R. W. Emerson.

Concord, Jan 28, 1842.

### To Caroline Sturgis, Concord? January 28, 1842 [26]

My little boy died last night, my little wonderful boy. You too have seen him & loved him. But you can never know how much daily &

23. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

24. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The first sentence is almost the same as what is quoted in Henry Demarest Lloyd, *Mazzini and Other Essays*, 1910, p. 77, and there described as a note which "came to the Hoar household" from Emerson, on Jan. 27, 1842.

25. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is a copy, not in Emerson's hand. The copyist indicates the person addressed. Another copy (also owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL), in Cabot's hand, is obviously incomplete but bears this explanatory note: "Miss P. had invited a few persons to meet Chas. Dickens & E. among them." Another invitation to meet Dickens is mentioned in Jan. 24, 1842.

26. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is an apparently incomplete copy made by Cabot, who has indicated the date and the person addressed.

nightly blessedness was lodged in the child. I saw him always & felt him everywhere. On Sunday I carried him to see the new church & organ. & on Sunday we shall lay his sweet body in the ground. You will also grieve for him.

R. W. E.

### To Margaret Fuller, Concord? February 2, 1842 [27]

Dear Margaret,

I am not going to write you a letter but only to say in reply to your request, that we are finding again our hands & feet after our dull & dreadful dream which does *not* leave us where it found us. Lidian, Elizabeth, & I recite chronicles words & tones of our fair boy & magnify our lost treasure to extort if we can the secretest wormwood of the grief, & see how bad is the worst. Meantime the sun rises & the winds blow Nature seems to have forgotten that she has crushed her sweetest creation and perhaps would admonish us that as this Child's attention could never be fastened on any death, but proceeded still to enliven the new toy, so we children must have no retrospect, but illuminate the new hour if possible with an undiminished stream of rays.

Waldo E

2 Feb.

### To Caroline Sturgis, Concord? February 4, 1842 [28]

Dear Caroline

The days of our mourning ought, no doubt, to be accomplished ere this, & [I] the innocent & beautiful should not be sourly & gloomily lamented, but with music & fragrant thoughts & sportive recollections. Alas! I chiefly grieve that I cannot grieve;[I] that this fact takes no more deep hold than other facts, is as dreamlike as they; a lambent flame that will not burn playing on the surface of my river. Must every experience — those that promised to be dearest & most penetrative, — only kiss my cheek like the wind & pass away? I think of Ixion &

27. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller, in care of H. H. Fuller, Boston. The letter was almost certainly written at Concord, as it bears a Concord postmark dated Feb. 2. Again there are phrases suggestive of "Threnody."

28. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is a copy in Cabot's hand. The copyist has indicated the date and the person addressed. Excerpts I–IV are in Cabot, II, 481–482. As in other letters written soon after Waldo's death, there are here some passages suggestive of "Threnody."

Tantalus & Kehama. [II]Dear Boy too precious & unique a creation to be huddled aside into the waste & prodigality of things! Yet his Image, so gentle, yet so rich in hopes, blends easily with every happy moment, every fair remembrance, every cherished friendship of my life.[II] I delight in the regularity & symmetry of his nature. [III]Calm & wise, calmly & wisely happy, the beautiful Creative power looked out from him & spoke of anything but chaos & interruption;[III] signified strength & unity — & gladdening, all-uniting life. [IV]What was the moral of sun & moon, of roses & acorns, that was the moral of the sweet boy's life, softened only & humanized by blue eyes & infant eloquence.[IV] x x x

## To Lidian Emerson, Boston, February 8, 1842 [29]

Tuesday, 11 o'clock

Dear Lidian,

My first lecture is not until Thursday eve.[30] Mary H. Russell is here in town, & means to go up to Concord on Thursday Afternoon to see you: [31] which I have also begged her to do. I have this morn — your pacquet & letters with gladness. I cannot tell you yet of any success in my mission.[32] When I have I shall tell you soon enough Abel Adams was to carry me out to Mr Lewis's [33] last eve. but it rained fast, & we shall probably go tonight. Today I shall dine with Mr Quincy [34] — Do not let Elizabeth go home, but hold her hard. I told Mary R that she was there. Dear love to you all.

29. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This letter was obviously written two days before the beginning of a lecture course and at a time when Emerson had been staying in Boston and expected to remain away from home for some time. It is addressed to his wife at Concord. Evidence cited below shows that the Tuesday of the date line must have been Feb. 8, 1842. There is no signature.

30. For the beginning of Emerson's course at Providence on Thursday, Feb. 10, 1842, see the letter of that date. The course given in Boston a little earlier had begun on Thursday, Dec. 2, 1841; but Emerson had written a letter from Concord on the preceding Tuesday afternoon.

31. Emerson wrote his wife on the night of Feb. 10: "I hope Mary Russell has known how to recall your spirits."

32. The letters of Feb. 10, 12, and 15, 1842, allude to the campaign for funds for Alcott's voyage.

33. For Samuel S. Lewis, Boston agent of the "Cunard" Line, see Sanborn and Harris, I, 329–330; *Boston Daily Advertiser*, Feb. 2, 1842; and *Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1842. The letter of Feb. 12 shows that he refused to "frank a berth" for Alcott.

34. Josiah Quincy, Emerson's classmate, had sent a son to Alcott's school (*Journals*, IV, 69). In the letter of Feb. 12 Emerson tells Alcott of dining with the Quincys "last Tuesday" and of their goodwill toward the plan for the voyage.

I beg you to send me by the first convenient stage in an envelope the proofsheets of Mr Alcotts article for the new Dial [35] which you will find in my the third drawer (from the top) of my cabinet. If not there, you will not find them anywhere.

I thank you for sending the watch to me [36]

## To Lidian Emerson, Providence, February 10, 1842 [37]

Thursday Night Feb 10
1842

Providence

Dear Lidian I am very sorry to find that I cannot come home on Saturday night but must stay here to lecture on that evening, as my audience are all engaged elsewhere tomorrow Evening; and my nights are to be Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday; so that I shall end my engagement a week from tonight & go home the next day. Tonight I read two lectures into one, the Introductory, & the Conservative: [38] But my audience was not large. If it do not grow larger, I shall have to go to New York, I think, to make another adventure to retrieve my losses. — At all events I am sorry not to go home on Saturday, on your account, & on mine, on your friend's who is within your gates, on Mamma's, & on the children's, & lastly on Mr Alcott's, to whom on Sat. Eve. I was to make report of my success. I think to write to him in the course of tomorrow a letter [39] which he shall receive on Monday.

And now how art thou, Sad wifey? Have the clouds yet broken, & let in the sunlight? Alas! alas! that one of your sorrows, that our one sorrow [40] can never in this world depart from us! Well perhaps we shall never be frivolous again, eating of this everlasting wormwood. Meantime Ellen & Edith shall love you well, & fill all your time, and the re-

35. For " Days from a Diary," see Nov. *c.* 14? and 15? 1841.

36. This sentence, in the margin of the superscription, is in a hand hard to identify but probably Emerson's.

37. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

38. The *Providence Daily Journal,* which introduced Emerson to its readers on Feb. 10, 1842, as known in Providence from his earlier appearances there and for his *Essays,* announced the lectures at Franklin Hall, on the days of their delivery, as follows: Feb. 10, first lecture in the course " On the Times " (no specific title given); 12, " The Poet "; 14, " The Transcendentalist "; 17, the fifth and last lecture, " Prospects." The same paper for Feb. 12 had indicated that the fourth lecture was to be given on the 15th.

39. Actually dated Feb. 12, 1842.

40. The death of Waldo is recorded in the letters of Jan. 27 and 28, 1842.

membrances of the Angel shall draw you to sublime thoughts. I look out from the window of the cars for him as Ellen does from the chamber window.

I am here at the City Hotel, well enough provided for. As I have brought books with me, I can live easily, but am not permitted to stay in my chamber for the goodness of twenty or thirty friendly people who wish you to drink tea sociably. Shall I not tell them that I live in Concord, and in Concord we never drink tea sociably? — I hope Mary Russell has known how to recall your spirits. I am sorry to lose thus much of her visit. Write to me quickly that you are all well, and give my love to Mamma & to the babies. Farewell! fare best!

Waldo.

### To Amos Bronson Alcott, Providence, February 12, 1842

[MS copy, made by Alcott, owned by Mr. F. W. Pratt; ph. in CUL. Partly printed in *The Genius and Character of Emerson*, p. 59; printed in nearly complete form in Sanborn and Harris, I, 328–329, where Alcott's name and address, given in the MS copy, are omitted.]

### To David Hatch Barlow, Providence? February *c.* 14? 1842

[Barlow, Worcester, Mass., Feb. 12, 1842, asked information about Carlyle. Emerson's reply is alluded to in Feb. 26, 1842, to Lidian Emerson.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Providence, February 15, 1842 [41]

Providence 15 Feb

Much I fear, dear Wife, that the Post Office has bro't me no letter this day, for it is 1 o'clock, & Mr Fuller [42] would have sent me one, had he found it. And so for a whole week you have written me no syllable of the poor children, for whom I suppose you think I do not care, nor of yourself nor of Mother. Well is this to punish my philosophy? I must think then, must I? that it is mere idleness of mind that sets me to ask these gossipping questions? — It is true that the Boy is gone, the far shining stone that made home glitter to me when I was farthest absent — for you & I are passing, and he was to remain; and with him I feel that my house has lost how much magnetism! Yet the other children may be good babes yet — I will breathe no despair on their sweet for-

41. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The year is obviously 1842.
42. Hiram Fuller, no doubt; *cf.* various letters of 1837–1840.

tunes Nelly is a good little housewife & that Lidianetta [43] may come to great heart & honor in the months & years to come. But I should think you who summon me up so often from the Study to see her smile, would have some report to send of her virtues in eight days. Tomorrow morning I shall get the tidings which are denied today. Perhaps I will bring home with me Charles Newcome [44] to show him some of my men & things. It is too late to get leave to do so, of the Queen. I can give you little good news of my speeding here. My audience is a very friendly & faithful one, but is small. I dare not count it, but I fear it might be counted. I see no help but that I should go to New York, yet I have not yet mustered energy enough to resolve to do so & write to William.[45] I think I must come home first – if it be only to know if all those dumb friends are safe alive.

I shall doubtless leave Providence Friday morning & come home the same evening. So you need not write to me after this to your complaining husband W.

Tell Elizabeth I brought the Chronicle of the Cid [46] with me & have read it with great joy. I have written nothing except in correcting & completing my lectures. Charles N. is the only new thing I have seen Do you remember Mr Davis [47] of this place whom Mr Alcott brought to our house one day He has made the first subscription I have yet received to the Alcott-Voyage-fund and a very liberal one.

## To William Emerson, Concord, February 19, 1842 [48]

Concord Feb 19 1842

Dear William,

I have just returned from Providence whither I went to read a course of Lectures on encouragement offered me from some persons whom I trusted there as competent to judge of my probable success in getting a good audience. But they were greatly mistaken I found a

43. The letter of Dec. 4, 1841, to William Emerson tells of the difficulty of choosing a name for Edith.

44. Here Emerson lapses into the spelling he had first used (*cf.* a letter of Mar. 30, 1840).

45. See Feb. 19, 1842.

46. Southey's translation, *Chronicle of the Cid,* containing also some extracts sent by Frere, was published at London in 1808.

47. For the contribution of Thomas Davis of Providence to the new "Alcott Fund" of many years later, see July 13, 1859, to Lowell.

48. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

small company & a trivial reward. However I accomplished some objects.

The lamentable failure of the City Bank to pay me this year 600 dollars of income must now set me in motion once more, & I decide to make a trial in New York. I think of several circumstances that seem to warrant me some success in the plan. Then an important fact is that I can very well afford to fail; shall not suffer a moment as some younger men might from entire Want of attention in the good city, any farther than just the inconvenience of not getting the money which I want to pay my debts. I shall still have the resource left of sitting down here & writing with steadiness a book which men must buy. Be it known to you therefore that I purpose to come & advertise in your city, say to begin a week from next Monday, a course of Lectures *On the Times six lectures,* I think, and to invite all New York to come & pay for hearing my wisdom. If you see any impossibility in my plan, write me word instantly; if I do not hear from you immediately, I think I shall appear there so soon as I say. Perhaps you may see that no steps can be taken to such an end until I come.: If otherwise there be any good hall you can engage for me, I should like to promise the six in two weeks, three in each week, if that is admissible. If you see fit you may advertise for me thus " R. W. E. proposes to deliver a course of Six lectures ON THE TIMES in Hall, on Monday Wednesday & Friday Evenings to begin on Monday Eve Feb at 7½ o'clock Tickets &c." [49] — Possibly Mr Eames might know how to fill up these important blanks, the proper price of tickets &c. I incline to make low prices. In Boston to a course of Eight Lectures the ticket admitting one person is 2.00 & the single evening ticket 50 cents. But you need not do what you cannot do in your present preoccupations but I will come as soon as I hear from you.

49. William Emerson, Feb. 23, endorsed 1842 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson): " Your letter of the 19th was not received till yesterday . . . I am rejoiced at your determination to try your fortune as a lecturer in New York. I have this morning called to see Mr Bellows about it . . . & at his request I have not taken any steps towards engaging a hall, &c. to enable him to consult Horace Greely & Chas. Eames & 2 or 3 others . . . & then to see me tomorrow. We shall have the matter duly advertised in tomorrow afternoon's papers. You must not think of giving more than two lectures in a week. And will you not have the goodness to put into your trunk one lecture which may answer as an Introductory to a course expected to be delivered before a nascent Institution on Staten Island? . . . our cottage must of course be your headquarters, & (your suggestion in yesterday's letter notwithstanding) we shall probably be able to reconcile that arrangement generally with your convenience."

The " yesterday's letter " may, I believe, be a letter written on Feb. 22 and not the letter received on that day. It seems to have contained some comment not to be found in Feb. 19. But I have no other evidence.

I am in no plight of late to do these things but it is plainly just & necessary. So you may say, if you need, that it is a very considerable & very unlooked for reduction of my income that drives me to it. We are well — our sad remainder — & love you & yours

Waldo.

## To Eliza Thayer Clapp, Concord, February 23, 1842

[MS owned by Miss A. S. Patterson. Printed by G. W. Cooke in *Poet-lore*, XIV, 107–108 (Oct., 1902), and, less fully, in *An Historical and Biographical Introduction*, II, 104–105. The *Poet-lore* version omits only the phrase "new & true in matter & form," which follows "true poem" in a copy, in Cabot's hand, owned by RWEMA (ph. in CUL).]

## To Elizabeth Palmer Peabody, Concord, February 23, 1842 [50]

Concord. Feb. 23. 1842.

x x x x I am sorry to hear no better tidings of the Dial in the past; [51] but "let Bygones be Bygones, & fair play for the time to come." x x x x

## To Lidian Emerson, New York, February 26, 1842 [52]

New York Sat. Morn[g]
25 Feb. 1842

Dear Lidian

I came hither by Providence & Stonington last night and arrived in N. Y. about 7 o'clock this morn[g]. Mr Lothrop of Brattle Street I found in the cars, and he is good company from auld lang syne. I noticed on the rail road to Providence that we traversed 17 miles in 40 minutes. So we will lay that up to the credit of our future Fitchburg road.[53] In Boston Le Baron Russell bro't me the Boy's miniature [54] and I put it in my pocket, & sent the accompanying letter & *Sermon* to you. So do not inquire after the picture. It is precious, & yet after the new

50. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is a fragmentary copy, not in Emerson's hand. The copyist has indicated the person addressed.

51. *Cf.* Mar. 18, 1842, to Margaret Fuller, for the desperate straits of *The Dial*.

52. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Emerson would hardly have been wrong in giving the morning of his arrival as Saturday, but Saturday was the 26th, not the 25th, of February, 1842. The letter, written in the morning, would naturally have been mailed the same day, and the New York postmark bears the date Feb. 26. In Mar. 1, 1842, to his wife, Emerson refers to his "letter of Saturday."

53. *Cf.* Jan. 24, 1842.

54. Waldo's.

& fatal impressions we have had of his developed size & maturity this seems a sketch of very long ago. — This morn. I have seen William who is very well & has taken with his friends very good care of my little enterprize, so that it seems in prosperous nursing. But I find that I am not to read the first Lecture until Thursday evening; a second, Saturday; three the next week, & one the following. So I leave the Astor House whence I now write, this P. M. & go to the Island with William Tell Mother I saw Uncle Ralph in Boston & he promised payment in a few days to Abel Adams, so that if she or you want any money suddenly, you can have as much as you want — by writing to me. In this Hotel I have no more to say to you but that Margaret Fuller taxed me severely with writing kindly to Barlow,[55] who it seems immediately made a merit of it to his wife! " How could I so injure the truth? " That comes of speaking a word of humanity to a fellow creature. Keep then the most kindness you can for your sinful husband. Waldo. —

For Elizabeth I always remember her. This in answer to something in a letter to Providence.

## To Rufus Wilmot Griswold, New York, February 26? 1842[56]

New York, 25 Feb. 1842

Dear Sir,

In Boston yesterday on my way hither from Concord, I learned that you are about editing an American Edition of Sterling's Poems.[57] I hope it is not quite too late to entreat you & the publishers to withhold your hands. Mr Sterling is a valued friend & correspondent of mine now for some years, & I transmitted to him, more than a year ago, the offer volunteered by an admirer of his writings, Andrew L. Russell,[58] an iron-master at Plymouth, Mass., who proposed to get all Sterling's writings republished in this country with the intent to secure the profits of the sale to the Author, provided that Sterling should send us a correct list of the same. Mr Sterling accepted the proposition thankfully & promised the list on his return to London, from which he was

55. Letter of Feb. *c.* 14? 1842.

56. MS owned by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; ph. in CUL. The letter of Feb. 26, 1842, also misdated Feb. 25, shows that Emerson did not arrive in New York till Feb. 26. The present letter bears a New York postmark the date of which is not legible.

57. This was advertised for sale in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Apr. 11, 1842. Apparently Griswold did not take the trouble to answer the present letter (*cf.* Apr. 1 following).

58. In Mar. 31, 1841.

then absent for some time. He has since written to beg a little farther delay on account of a Tragedy, " Strafford," [59] which he means shortly to send us, to add to our collection; and which I am constantly expecting. Had I known of your intention I should have earlier informed you of ours; & can now only hope you have not gone too far to stop.

If so, will you not enforce the claim of forbearance on the publisher by informing him that Mr Sterling has been a great pecuniary loser by the unfortunate circumstance that a friend of his invested a considerable sum of money for him in American stock — the Morris Canal Company,[60] — which, I believe, is bankrupt; & we pleased ourselves with thinking that by means of our Edition, America would make him some small amends. If you should have any communication to make to me, I shall probably remain here a fortnight, and a letter addressed to the care of William Emerson, Esq. 64 Wall Street, would reach me.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

R. W. Griswold.

### To Thomas Carlyle, New York, February 28, 1842

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

### To Josiah Quincy, Sr., Concord? *c.* February? 1842?

[According to Margaret Bell, *Margaret Fuller,* 1930, p. 126, Richard Fuller carried a letter from Emerson to President Quincy when he left Concord for Cambridge. For the plan to send young Fuller to Concord to prepare for college, see a note on Sept. 17? 1841. The MS faculty records, XII, 92–93 (in HCL), show that he was admitted Feb. 28, 1842, as a sophomore but on probation.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Castleton, Staten Island, March 1, 1842 [61]

[1]Staten Island
Castleton 1 March 1842

Dear Lidian[1]

I came hither on Saturday went up to the city yesterday and tomorrow shall go thither again to establish myself probably in the

59. See Oct. 18 and 19, 1843.

60. The Morris Canal and Banking Company went into the hands of a receiver, apparently in 1841; and in Oct., 1844, the canal was sold to satisfy a mortgage (C. L. Jones, *The Economic History of the Anthracite-Tidewater Canals,* 1908, p. 113).

61. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–IV are in Cabot, II, 489–490.

Globe Hotel on Broadway, which is in a more convenient neighborhood to Wall Street & the Staten Island Boat, & other points which interest me than the Astor House. II Yesterday I dined with Mr Horace Greeley & Mr Brisbane, the socialist, at a Graham Boarding House. Mr Brisbane promised me a full exposition of the principles of Fourierism & Association, as soon as I am once lodged at the Globe Hotel.[62] Il faut soumettre: Yet I foresaw in the moment when I encountered these two new friends here, that I cannot content them. They are bent on popular action: I am in all my theory, ethics, & politics a poet and of no more use in their New York than a rainbow or a firefly. Meantime they fasten me in their thought to " Transcendentalism," whereof you know I am wholly guiltless, and which is spoken of as a known & fixed element like salt or meal: So that I have to begin by endless disclaimers & explanations — ' I am not the man you take me for.' One of these days shall we not have new laws forbidding solitude; and severe penalties on all separatists & unsocial thinkers? II

I suppose I did not bid you write, in my letter of Saturday,[63] & for that omission my wife who spells the words & counts the points will make me wait a good week for tidings of home. Yet III those poor little girls whose crown of glory is taken from them, interest me still, if it were only for pity, and I would gladly know how they fare. Tell Mother that Susan & William had greatly hoped to see her in the Winter but now that they learn how formidable the journey looked to her, they are content that she did not come. They say she shall come when you & I make a summer visit here. They are the same faultless affectionate people here that they ever were. In their Temple of love & veneration Elizabeth holds undisputed possession of the highest niche. William is not the isolated man I used to find or to fancy him but under the name of " the Judge " [64] seems to be an important part of the web of life here in his island.III Tell Mother that Mr Mason's [65] case is lately decided again in his favor for the third & last time to his & William's great contentment. Mr M. has taken a house in the city & begged William with Spanish courtesy to consider it his own. Catalina is with him.

IV Write to me all the particulars of home including Elizabeth, you

62. See Mar. 3, 1842.

63. Feb. 26, 1842.

64. See July 3, 1841, to William Emerson.

65. Sidney Mason was now a merchant in New York (*Longworth's American Almanac*, 1842).

can; that you are yourself very peaceful, and still beneficent to me & to all. Give my love to Henry.[66] and a kiss to each of the Babes

Yours affectionately,

Susan desires particular remembrance to you, & Mother, & E.[67] W.[IV]

## To Margaret Fuller, Castleton, Staten Island, March 1, 1842 [68]

Castleton,
Staten Island, 1 March, 1842

Dear Margaret, I was born to stay at home, not to ramble. As soon as I get thus far from my hearthstone, I feel, as two years ago, when I sat in this same apartment, new reason for writing to you, namely, that I may feel myself again, may expand these northern lungs for northern air, somewhat too contracted in this realm of the Knickerbockers — realm strange to me. Through some misunderstanding my first lecture in the city is appointed not until Thursday, so I came down here to stay a little at my brother's. Tomorrow I go to N. Y. & establish myself probably at the Globe Hotel, for a week or two: Yesterday I dined with Horace Greeley and with Brisbane the socialist at their Graham boarding house.[69] Greeley is a young man with white soft hair from New Hampshire, mother of men, of sanguine temper & liberal mind, no scholar but such a one as journals & newspapers make, who listens after all new thoughts & things but with the indispensable New York condition that they can be made available; likes the thought but must keep the power; What can I do with such an abettor? He declares himself a Transcendentalist, is a unitarian, a defender of miracles, &c I saw my fate in a moment & that I should never content him. Brisbane wished to know how the " Trans." &c established the immortality of the soul. He had never believed it until he learned it of Fourier, who completely established it! [70] Alas, how shall I content Mr Brisbane? For me was noth-

66. Thoreau; *cf.* a note on Mar. 5, 1842.

67. Elizabeth Hoar, mentioned above.

68. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

69. Horace Greeley tells of his being an " inmate " of various Graham boarding houses in New York, and of meeting at one of them the woman who was to be his wife " and who was long a more faithful, consistent disciple of Graham than I was " (*Recollections,* 1869, pp. 103–105). Later letters allude to Greeley's loyal support of Emerson and of what he believed to be Transcendentalism.

70. *Cf.* Charles Fourier, " Thèse de l'immortalité bi-composée," *Traité de l'association,* Paris and London, 1822, I, 231–263; and " De l'immortalité de l'âme," *Le Nouveau monde industriel,* Brussels, 1841, II, 359–365. For an account of Brisbane's more serious attempt to explain Fourierism to Emerson, see Mar. 3, 1842.

ing but disclaimers & still disclaimers. Mr B. wished to know if I was master of Fourier? No. Then he must come directly on my arrival at the Globe Hotel & possess me of it by full illimitable personal explanation. So I am to come home an understanding man, if a sad one. These kindly but too determinate persons, the air of Wall Street, the expression of the faces of the male & female crowd in Broadway, the endless rustle of newspapers all make me feel not the value of their classes but of my own class – the supreme need of the few worshippers of the Muse – wild & sacred – as counteraction to this world of material & ephemeral interest. Lidian sometimes taxes me at home with an egotism more virulent than any against which I rail. Perhaps she is right. Greeley, like Hedge, talks of Eclecticism. I mistake, – not like Hedge, but like Cousin & Geo. Ripley. I was driven at once to say, as, I believe I have heard Hedge say, " there was no hope for an Eclectic "; I must unfold my own thought. Each must build up his own world, though he unbuilt all other men's, for his materials. So rabid does egotism, when contradicted, run;

Pity me & comfort me, O my friend, in this city of magnificence & of steam. For a national, for an imperial prosperity, everything here seems irrevocably destined. What a Bay! what a River! what climate! what men! What ample ample interior domain, lake mountain & forest! What manners, what histories & poetry shall rapidly arise & for how long, and, it seems, endless date! Me my cabin fits better, yet very likely from a certain poorness of spirit; but in my next transmigration, I think I should choose New York. Said you that you should not believe me if I subscribed myself your friend? Waldo

Mr Greeley is greatly interested in Ripley's community.[71] His wife an amiable pleasing woman wishes to board there. I told her what I knew of it. He said he should write to G. R. very soon.

## To Lidian Emerson, New York, March 3, 1842[72]

Thursday Evening

[1]New York.

Thanks, dear Lidian, for this morning's welcome letter which informed me of what I most wished to know.[1] I have just parted with

71. Lindsay Swift, *Brook Farm*, 1900, p. 206, mentions Greeley as a visitor to the Farm.

72. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–V are in Cabot, II, 491–492. The Boston postmark is dated March, with a single blurred digit for the day. Internal

William who staying here in the city & at this Globe Hotel tonight out of fraternal love & courtesy has accompanied me to the lecture & is now gone to bed. II We had a pretty good company in the lecture room,[73] although the hall is small & I see not how it will hold people enough to answer any of my profane & worldly purposes which you & I at this moment have so much at heart: and then for sacred purposes of influence & provocation why we know that a room which will hold two persons holds audience enough: is not that thy doctrine, O unambitious wife?II Today I visited Miss Julia Ward; [74] and Mrs Ogden Haggerty whose husband a friend of S. G. W's had called on me & with whom I am to dine tomorrow. And III this P. M. Mr Brisbane indoctrinated me in the high mysteries of "Attractive Industry" [75] in a conversation which I wish you all might have heard He wishes me "with all my party," to come in directly & join him. What palaces! What concerts! What pictures lectures poetry & flowers. Constantinople it seems Fourier showed was the natural capital of the World, & when the Earth is planted & gardened & templed all over with "Groups" & "Communities" each of 2000 men & 6000 acres, Constantinople is to be the metropolis & we poets & Miscellaneous transcendental persons who are too great for your Concords & New Yorks will gravitate to that point for music & architecture & society such as wit cannot paint nowadays. Well, tomorrow P. M. I am to hear the rest of the story, so you shall have no more of it.

I doubt I doubt if I find anything here in N. Y. of gain outward or

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evidence makes it certain that the letter was written on Mar. 3, 1842, which fell on Thursday.

73. *The Evening Post* of Feb. 28, 1842, advertised Emerson's course of six lectures on "The Times" at the Society Library, to commence the following Thursday, Mar. 3. The same paper announced the lectures on the days of delivery as follows: Mar. 3 (only the general title of the course was given); 5, "The Poet"; 7, "The Conservative"; 9, "The Transcendentalist"; 12, "Manners"; 14, "Prospects." On the 16th, the *Post*, which was Bryant's paper, reviewed the course with high praise for Emerson: "More than almost any other public speaker, he makes an intelligent hearer think for himself." The reviewer, however, complained of some incoherence. William Emerson wrote to Mary Moody Emerson on July 28 following (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson) that his brother's course in New York "produced a marked sensation in the best part of our community, & has created for him many lovers & admirers here." The financial return amounted, according to *Journals*, VI, 163, to about two hundred dollars over expenses.

74. Apparently the Julia Ward who became Mrs. Howe in the following year.

75. Brisbane was recognized as the American spokesman for the Fourierists; he had published his *Social Destiny of Man* in 1840. A summary of Brisbane's exposition similar to that given here appears in Emerson's "Historic Notes of Life and Letters in New England," *Cent. Ed.*, X, 348–351.

inward that is at all worth while to break up my dull routine for. I should have invented a better expedient at home & staid there & come hither later in another or a following year. However my Ides of March are not quite gone yet.[76]

Thanks for all the tidings, of Elizabeth too. Perhaps she will yet want to write me though I really might not care in this empty listless homeless mood to write her in reply? Chat away, little Ellen! Might all her words countervail one the Boy should speak.[III] I hoped for better news than that my neighbor & valued townsman should die. You speak of Henry as if he had been more ill than I know. Do tell him with my love to favor himself. There is hard work enough before us all in the plane[t][77] without our making any intemperate haste to the same.

When there are two letters to send from Concord, it will cost me just as much to send by K. to Boston (.12) and by Harnden to N. Y. (.25) as if you send them by mail but if three, it is cheaper to enclose in one paper & send them by Kendall to Harnden. He will bring them to W^m^ & receive a quarter of a dollar. Tell Mamma that Mrs Whitney came to see me at Susan's and sent such loving messages as I hope I shall remember. The three Boys are all in fine health & very promising children. Charles looks older & behaves older than Edith; cried at coming to me a stranger; which Edith would not do: Yet he is younger.

[IV] William & Susan are the best of husband & wife[IV] father & [V] brother & sister, host & friend that can be to sad estranged misadventured estrayed Waldo Emerson[V]

## To Lidian Emerson, New York, March 5, 1842 [78]

Globe Hotel:
New York, 5 March, 1842.

Dear Lidian

I have just found your letter by Mr Loring & he shall have this sheet to carry back,[79] if it were only to say in reply to your postscript, that you will find a good part of a ream of such paper as this on which I write in the cabinet under the bookshelves on the right of the stove in the study. Let me not fail of letters for want of paper. Well I am glad to hear what good you tell me, and anything from home

76. Emerson several times alludes to both Plutarch's life of Caesar and Shakespeare's play.

77. The MS is slightly defective because of the seal.

78. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

79. According to the superscription, this letter was carried by David Loring.

is good. I have already found here some interesting persons. Henry James is one, who paid me a long visit after my first lecture [80] a very manlike thorough seeing person, who encountered Brisbane here & told him the truth a good deal better than I should probably have done. Then William Greene [81] a devout man who seems to read nothing but Boehmen & Madame Guion came & invited me to go & see a devout woman, Mrs Black,[82] of the same stamp — They are pure & serene souls in whose company New York gets quite dissolved & forgotten. Each good person whom I see knows perhaps one more & believes that only they two or they three hold a similar faith in all this city. Yet Greene through some third person had found that among the Indians in some Western territory were devout men who "knew the spirit." Last night at Mr Brisbane's boarding house was an animated conversation, — the old war, Omnipotence of Arrangements versus Power of the Soul.

Tonight is my second Lecture. Tomorrow morning I go down with William to the Island. What mean you? that Haven resembles Waldo? I had not thought it. He is a fine child, & all fine children resemble each other. I will try & find it. I have seen two or three fine babies here. — Balmy beautiful weather. I observe that my windows are wide open all this time & I knew it not. I have nothing else to say but kindest greetings to Mother, to Elizabeth, to Henry,[83] — to those little unprofitable lassies twain, — and remember me to Louisa and Lydia & Jane.[84] Tell Mother that William Haskins & his wife came to see me with all hos-

80. Henry James, Sr., father of the novelist and of the psychologist, appears in the correspondence for many years. It is not clear whether Emerson wrote in reply to what must have been James's first letter, Mar. 3? 1842 (printed in Ralph Barton Perry, *The Thought and Character of William James*, 1935, I, 39–41). But at any rate the two men almost immediately became acquainted, and a friendship important to both resulted. For James's memory of this first meeting as told in a lecture many years later, see a note on Apr. 12, 1872, to Fields. James recorded that he diligently attended Emerson's New York course of 1842.

81. *Cf. Journals*, VI, 163. His reading in Jakob Böhme and Mme Guyon would indicate that he was a mystic.

82. Mrs. Rebecca Black, mentioned in *Journals*, VI, 163, among notable people Emerson met in New York at this time, is described *ibid.*, VII, 332–333, as a clever and, at the same time, spiritual woman who made her living by slop-work from the tailors. *Cf.* also Mar. 7, 1842, to Elizabeth Hoar, and, especially, the letters of Mar. 10 and 11, and Mar. 10 and 12? 1842. She had been a Presbyterian, but had "come out into the light" (*Journals*, VI, 197).

83. To Emerson's repeated greetings sent in this indirect fashion, Thoreau presently made up his mind to respond with the friendly message printed in *Scribner's Magazine*, XVII, 352–353 (Mar., 1895) — the MS is owned by Mr. W. T. H. Howe.

84. Probably all servants; Louisa and Lydia are mentioned in July 28, 1841, and in other letters.

pitable invitations. But I shall be glad to be at home again; I was not born for gipseying. The good Mrs Black rebuked me for the hurry & impatience of my spirit — not in reference to home, however. All good dwell with you, Yours affectionately, Waldo.

### To Elizabeth Hoar, Castleton? Staten Island? March 6? 1842

[An uncompleted letter, mentioned in Mar. 7 following to Elizabeth Hoar.]

### To Lidian Emerson, New York, March 7, 1842 [85]

New York
Monday Morning

Dear Lidian,

From Staten Island this morng where I spent yesterday & left the amiable *wife & mother & sister* with her three babes the same quiet benefactress as always she is. The children are very well & full of promise. I think the two youngest are improvements on Willie But we guess in the dark for these youngsters. Tomorrow night I go back there to open the Stapleton Lyceum with an Introductory address.[86] I have just found a new boarding house at Mrs Cadle's, 691 Broadway.[87] On Saturday Evening I saw Mrs John Thomas at my Lecture, who came to me to inquire if you were with me. This P. M. I am to go with William to see Miss Sedgwick. Be sure in your next letter to tell me which days the Lowell & Framingham Stage goes from Framingham — a piece of information which Henry can easily give you. It may be easiest for me to come back that way, by Norwich. In this office I have no syllable more to add but could not let Mr Mackay [88] go without so much. So dear love to you all. Farewell.

W.

85. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Emerson spent three Mondays in New York or in Staten Island during this visit. On Monday Feb. 28 the Globe Hotel must have been still in prospect (*cf.* Mar. 1, 1842, to Lidian Emerson); and, as Monday Mar. 14 was the day of his last lecture and he was then about to leave for Concord, this letter was clearly not written at that time. The date must, therefore, be Mar. 7.

86. *Cf.* William Emerson, Feb. 23 (1842), in a note on Feb. 19, 1842. According to Charles Leng and William Davis, *Staten Island,* 1930, II, 784, the Tompkins Lyceum was organized Jan. 11, 1842, and before the end of that month William Emerson was the corresponding secretary.

87. *Longworth's American Almanac,* 1842, lists Sarah B. Cadle, widow, at that address.

88. The " Mr Mackay " of this and later letters must have been Tristram Barnard (known as Barnard) Mackay (*cf. Memoirs of . . . the Social Circle,* 3d series).

If you see the Prichards tell them how well & noble I find their brother.[89] He exerts himself most kindly in behalf of my company at the Society Library. I shall be heartily glad to get back, notwithstanding all kind strangers, to you surest benefactors, benefactress of mine!

## To Elizabeth Hoar, New York, March 7, 1842[90]

New York, March,: Monday Morn.

Dear Elizabeth,,

The sight of your farewell note the other night, which I looked at for refreshment & the good heart's sake, set me directly on writing to you a letter which having been quickly interrupted now lies folded in a trunk at the other end of this city.[91] Yet the knowledge that Mr M. goes this P. M. constrains me to write at least your name. Slowly I find myself here also in this noisy town which seems the Miracle & exploit of the Senses and the Understanding whose uproar & gratulation at the perfection with which their ends are executed makes at first everything else unseasonable. But directly I am ashamed of this concession & feel the Omnipresence again. From every quarter we find rebukes to pusillanimity; from the first friendly face, from the first domestic appearance or group, from the first literary topic that is offered you, and how swiftly from the first dawning of a religious face & spirit. I went to see a Mrs Black [92] who made the noise ridiculous and quickly inaudible. I heartily wish to show you who have not seen Miss Rotch,[93] this woman who reads the Book of Esdras, (nothing else now,) and quotes Isaiah & Ezekiel in quite a new spirit. I do not at this moment recall any one expression — I must see her again. Shall I add to these confessions that I found yesterday at the Island a lesson most provocative of good thought & emotion in me in (do not laugh) Scotts "Lord of the Isles" which I read with a child's pleasure from the beginning to the end.[94] So many parts have we, and rarely or never are

89. Probably William Prichard, mentioned in many letters.

90. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The "Mr M." who was to carry this letter was pretty clearly the Mackay who was also to carry the letter of Mar. 7, 1842, to Lidian Emerson, and the March Monday of the date line, as other evidence also tends to show, must be Mar. 7, 1842. Apparently this is the "letter from me" to Elizabeth Hoar mentioned in Mar. 10 and 11, 1842.

91. Mar. 6? 1842.

92. *Cf.* Mar. 5, 1842.

93. See Mar. 28, 1847, to Mary Rotch.

94. In *Journals*, VI, 164–165 (Mar. 20? 1842), Emerson speaks of reading this

we surrendered to a spirit so high as to find occupation for them all. But I am taught ever & anon how wide I am of my road, and one day I shall get *home,* please God! This for today, and in a calm hour I will write again to entreat you to love your affectionate brother

Waldo –

## To Lidian Emerson, New York, March 10 and 11, 1842 [95]

New York, Thursday Morn[g] 10 Feb

Dear Lidian,

Yesterday I went to see Mrs Black again [96] a very good woman with much light in her *heart* but no equal light in her mind. Well I weary presently of these quiet souls if they cannot rouse me with a thought. I dined yesterday with *Mrs* Bellows. Mr B.[97] had asked me, but fell sick, & did not appear. Mr Bryant & Miss Sedgwick were of the party; Bryant just as gentlemanlike good easy dull man as ever, Miss Sedgwick as sensible & pleasant; but I do not remember that the conversation came to any thing. This evening I am to drink tea with Miss Sedgwick. But I find here a good many persons whose ear is open, and have a larger company at each lecture. Henry James whom I mentioned to you already,[98] is the best apple on the tree thus far. To him & to his brother it is obviously a great joy to hear of the doing & thinking & hoping of the Northern friends hitherto to them unknown. I am sure it was not quite in vain to come hither since you can so easily & so deeply awaken the attention & hope of good people. This morning comes good news in the shape of two letters from Elizabeth, & Margaret F.,[99] the second rejoicing in a good letter just received from the first; and E., beside her ever welcome communications of her own spirit, added tidings of the little Edie which made me study the advertisements

book at Staten Island "last week," but I believe this is an error in point of time unless the entry should actually be dated as early as Mar. 19.

95. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Both Feb. 10 and Mar. 10 fell on Thursday in 1842, but the correct date is clearly Mar. 10, as is shown by evidence cited below and by the New York postmark, which is plainly dated Mar. 11. As a matter of fact, Emerson was at Providence on Feb. 10, 1842, and wrote a letter home on that day.

96. Emerson's earlier visit to Rebecca Black is recorded in Mar. 5, 1842, and in Mar. 7 to Elizabeth Hoar.

97. *Cf.* later letters to Henry Whitney Bellows. For the New York preacher's interest in arranging for Emerson's lectures, see a note on Feb. 19, 1842.

98. In Mar. 5, 1842.

99. See a note on Mar. 10 and 12? 1842.

of the Providence & Norwich Boats as I paced along the street. Elizabeth does not say whether she has received a letter from me.[100] I must sit down soon in the happiest hour & write her of that life which she inspires.

11 The tyranny of Space I feel in this long long city: three or four *calls* will consume a day unless one is a skilful geographer. Yesterday eve. I visited Miss Sedgwick and had more conversation with her than before, but I found or fancied that there were lines of latitude & longitude which sever the mind of New York as well as the City from New England. All our questions seem new to them who live here. Last night I had six gentlemen here for two hours from 9' to eleven o clock discoursing on Transcendentalism, Trinity, Marriage, & other matters as grave, and was greatly contented with the sincerity & sense of my company. These were brokers & men of trade too.

Now I begin to consider that next Tuesday P. M. probably I shall take an eastern boat and shall get home perhaps Wednesday P. M. If I bring you home nothing else I shall have at least my little miniature [101] which comforts me sadly or pains me sweetly when I look on it. You tell me nothing of Mother no message from her. Give her my love My letters to you are letters to her also and William & Susan wish always to hear from her. I lamented on hearing of the death of Mrs Joy [102] the opportunities I had suffered to slip by of visiting that worthy worthy lady & expressing to her my gratitude & deep respect. It made me very unhappy and I shall find occasion to see her daughter Elizabeth & tell her my regrets. Have you not dear Lidian provided your poor husband with a letter for today? I will go down to William's office & see. Yours affectionately

W.

## To Margaret Fuller, New York, March 10 and 12? 1842 [103]

New York March 10, 1842.

Dear Margaret,

Gladly I received & read twice through today your

100. Apparently the letter to her which I have dated Mar. 7.

101. See Feb. 26, 1842.

102. See especially Apr. 2, 1842.

103. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Apparently the last paragraph was written just before the letter was mailed, and the New York postmark bears the date Mar. 12. Nearly all of the persons mentioned here appear in several preceding letters.

letter.[104] You know best of all living how to flatter your friend, both directly & by finest indirections. A warm friendly odorous air always breathes from your region, and always you are the bearer of good news. I wish I could make you a good return; but a stranger sees every thing

104. Emerson must have received on this day what Margaret Fuller had written on the 8th:

" Boston, March 8th, 1842.

" Dearest Waldo,

" My letter comes along tardily, but I have been ill much of the time, and the better days so full in consequence of the enforced indolence of the bad days that thoughts and feelings have had no chance to grow for the absent. Yet that is not all, there has been a sort of incubus on me when I looked your way, it disappears when we meet, but it returns to prevent my writing. Your letter (of 1st March, but not received till today) drives it away for the present. I have thought of you many times, indeed in all my walks, and in the night, with unspeakable tenderness, in the same way as I see you in your letter and of that time when you were in N York, two years ago, so much that I have been trying to go to Cambridge and get your letter in which after seeing the ships go by, you turn to the little dead flowers of the year before that grew upon the wall — But I suppose you have forgotten all about it, — I will not follow this path;

" I have to day a dear letter from dear Elizabeth. It came with yours. She says the right words as always when she speaks, the words which meet my heart, and I felt very grateful to her for writing when I could not to her. — Mr Alcott came last Sunday and spent some hours in talking with me His need seemed to be to make ' a clean breast on't ' He told me that he looked with less approval on the past year than on any former of his life, how he had pined for sympathy, had vainly sought it in the society of crude reformers, found them limited as the men they opposed, had sunk into moody musing and then ' found himself on the borders of frenzy ' — But, said he, perhaps it has not been in vain. I have learned to know my limitations, — the need man has of a gradual education through circumstances and intercourse with other men; and ' I have gained the greatest gain of my life in the magnanimity of a friend ' And then, as he spoke of what you had done and ' above all the manner of doing it ' he wept a plenteous shower of gracious tears.

" I must say, I envied your faith in him, your fidelity to him, as I saw his calm face watered by those tears. Indeed I have always prized them even when I could not sympathize and wished you valued right less and character more. But we are always elevated when we see any fidelity, any love that suffereth long and is kind.

" He then spoke of me, how he had often distrusted me from the very first, and, at times, did so still. I told him that was nothing peculiar to him; it seemed the friends I loved best and had supposed my vowed fellow-pilgrims did the same, but the fault, in his case, was, he never showed distrust to me, but spoke of it to others, — now that he had spoken of it to myself, all was well.

" This interview did not increase my confidence in him, nor did I feel that I could respond to his expressions of wish for sympathy. I still saw the same man, seeing states in the intellect which he will not humbly realize in heart and life. He had been to see W. Channing, he was going to West Roxbury, and I felt that after he had talked out this new phase to a dozen people, it would have done its work, and truth be left unembodied as far as depends on him. Yet I see, too, he is sincere in his own way, and that it is very hard for me to be just to him. I will try to be more

distorted. Yet I have found a kind reception enough here; some few ardent hearers, a good many willing ones: I have found two or three of those special quakers whom I must always revere (of the Mary Rotch class) who are laid in the chamber called Peace, & are apprised of every thing (even to details) which it concerns them to know, in their own spirit. One of them, a Mrs Black, would have been more admirable to me several years ago, but now, as soon as I found she was serene and self sufficing, I propounded to her the cases of those high unhappy persons whom we so often meet & cannot assist; and found instantly it availed nothing; the spiritual life did not as it ought convert itself at the first need into the intellectual, clung close to its altar & shrine, knew not how to become law for growing tree & blushing cheek for poet & sculptor for distracted states & false societies. Strange strange it seems that I should nowhere find that goodly marriage which everywhere I seek of holiness & of genius in one mind, which shall be majesty. Goodness will always be suspicious to me & only half goodness until it attains to become sight and apprehends Chemistry, for example. I have seen Miss Sedgewick, & Bryant, but believe I have nothing to tell you of them. Bryant is greatly interested in homœopathy and is himself an active practitioner. The cold man gets warm in telling his stories of his cures. He is always to me a pleasing person so clean & unexceptionable in his manners, full of facts, and quiet as a good child, but Miss Sedgwick complained of his coldness, she had known him always & never saw him

gentle and reverent in my thoughts of him, if only because he has felt you at this moment.

" Caroline, Sam, and I, all have letters from Ellery, theirs full of verses, mine of whimsies. I liked mine. My Mother now expects to go to Cincin and live with the two children a year.

" Anna W. is confined to her bed; she has over-exerted herself and the physician says she must lie there a fortnight. I have been able to go to see her only a few minutes — Sam passes the eves in her chamber painting. Each eve he conceives and executes some little sketch, which may, I fear, prove less for the good of his eyes than of his mind.

" Cary is well. I see her but little, yet this last week more than usual and in much sweetness. She, too, seemed to find difficulty in writing to you and for the same reason, to one loved it is needful to give all the life, or else the best. — Charles was here and we had the divine musical evening together. He had been fostered by your sympathy into yet more courage and will give Dolen for the Dial — I finished the 1st no Günderode last night, it will be out early next week. The two vols are to be translated in four numbers. I have just got into the spirit of writing to you as the paper ends, perhaps I will write again tomorrow if I do not it will be because I have not time

" Always yours
" Margaret.

" Tell me more about those dim New Yorkers."

warm. I have become acquainted with a very intelligent person named Henry James (a sister of whom married Anna W's [105] brother) and his brother John,[106] who read very good books; and the former, at least, is an independent right minded man. Perhaps I have seen ten or twelve more persons who have expressed a strong sympathy in opinion & feeling That Brisbane of whom I told you has an immense desire to be a writer for the Dial – I have now in my drawer a long paper which he wishes you to print in July:[107] but that is because he wishes you to diffuse Fourierism, not because he has ever read or comprehended a syllable of yours. Thanks for the tidings of dear friends the naming of whose names is pleasant to me. Mrs Sedgwick, who was an Ellery,[108] I found knew nothing of Ellery C.[109] except that 'his smile was sweet'; I am glad he bestirs himself so much as to write. How should Anna W. be ill? Here I often hear her name most specially mentioned. There is in this house a Mr Dickson who speaking to me of Boston people the other day asked if I knew her, and really he seemed to bear Sam (whom however he had never seen) no good will for possessing what perhaps he thought should be dedicate & unpossessable. I told him that if he knew Ward he might find as much contentment *as the case admitted.* Excellent that we are to have Dolon.[110] I had set my heart on it & fully intended to obtain it. Caroline promised to write me & will if it is only to tell me that there will be a concert or will not be. Perhaps before I close this letter I will write a note to her,[111] for I have received here a letter which she wrote to Concord.

And now I see that through my negligence & want of foresight of the ceaseless interruptions that befal me here I have allowed this sheet to ride about the land & water in my packet so long that it will be as old in its date as was the last before it arrives at your hands: May it find you strong & happy. Your friend, W.

105. Anna Barker Ward's.

106. John Barber James (*The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record,* LV, 114.

107. See Mar. 26, 1842.

108. Elizabeth Ellery of Newport, R. I., married Robert Sedgwick, brother of Catharine Maria Sedgwick, in 1822, and died in 1862 (*Life and Letters of Catharine M. Sedgwick,* ed. Mary E. Dewey, 1871, pp. 148–150 and 394; and *New-York Daily Tribune,* Sept. 10, 1862).

109. William Ellery Channing the Younger.

110. Charles Newcomb's piece mentioned by Margaret Fuller in her letter quoted above.

111. This seems to indicate a letter of about this date to Caroline Sturgis, of which, however, I have no other evidence.

### To William Emerson, Boston, March 16, 1842

[WmE List. That a letter was written at this time somewhere between New York and Concord is shown by William Emerson, Mar. 22, 1842 (owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), which acknowledges "Your two letters" duly received "announcing your progress homeward & your arrival there." The arrival is announced in Mar. 18, 1842, to William Emerson.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, March 18, 1842 [112]

Concord 18 March 1842

Dear William,

I learn from Elizabeth that the lost parcel was a piece of purple *calico,* I think, which Mrs Taylor had bought for her at E.'s request. Will you have the goodness to ask of Mrs T. the favor to buy the same pattern once more, and will you pay her for it & charge the same to me in the April account, — & send it to Boston to me by Harnden, if a private opportunity does not presently occur.

I have looked at your account and find you have omitted some small charges against me, one is the porter who carried my trunk from the Globe to Mrs Cadle's: [113] and then the confectioner; and I know not how many more. Please to insert these in the April statement. I observe also with admiration that Mr Prichard [114] paid 18.00 for tickets. As a bona fide transaction this is to me incredible. I entreat you that the account may be sifted & you satisfied that he did receive so much money from real men or women, or else the part or the whole of this fabulous amount of money returned to him.

I received last night the letters which your kind care forwarded: charge me with Harnden's fee.

I found all well here at home and very willing to let me in. Ellen was armed with an occasional hymn. Willies gift is the object of her incessant study nor can the pin box nor the work box be sufficiently opened or shut. She thanks cousin Willie, but has not yet signified her readiness to write him a letter.

Did I say, all are well. Lidian has an ugly cold yesterday & today & Edith sympathizes with her mother's 'empty stomach' promptly but not without expression. She protests aloud, the little fatty, by day & by night against short commons. She is a Chartist on the subject.

112. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

113. *Cf.* Mar. 7, 1842, to Lidian Emerson.

114. See a note on Mar. 7, 1842, to Lidian Emerson.

Mother & Elizabeth are well. Mr S. Ripley repairs the old house here & lets it for a year or two: [115] He put it on Ezra to decide whether he would go to college or to a farm. If to farm, he wd. remove to Concord at once & this should be the farm. Ezra chose Cambridge; [116] so he will rent the place. The worse for us. May joy & peace rest always on your rooftree! Waldo, E.

Mrs Joy [117] gave Ezra R. two hundred dollars one day a little before her death to be spent on his education.

Lidian sends down stairs to charge me with thanks to Susan for her care & love in the matter of the bushes.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord? March 18? 1842 [118]

Dear Margaret, That dumb St Augustine who prays so well, who & where is he? I should gladly hear all the prayers that go up from his oratory. — Your eloquent expostulations [119] bring to my lips the ancient ejaculation 'I believe. Thou, Lord, help my unbelief!' [120] Truly I never doubted that you befriend & cherish me always with that great generosity of love which is native to you yet when you are pleased to dignify with such well sounding words relations so simple as those between A. & myself,[121] I feel much as Ellery when he asks you, 'Why did they not praise me for keeping the peace, & not committing homicide?' Yet blotted be every word written of mine & oblivion fall on every spoken word if any such have ever been which doubted your sincerity. Absurd; there are none such. Good news it is always that comes from you and my quarrel must always be with myself that I do not more richly deserve your love.

115. Both Hedge and Hawthorne were soon drawn to Concord by the news that the Old Manse was to be let (*cf.* the letters of May 7 and 8, 1842).

116. Ezra Ripley appears as a freshman in *A Catalogue . . . Harvard,* 1842.

117. See Apr. 2, 1842.

118. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is in Cabot, II, 405, where it is wrongly dated. Evidence cited below makes it very probable that this is what Emerson describes in his letter of "Friday Evening" (Mar. 18, 1842) as "the page written this morning."

119. Probably Margaret Fuller's letter of Mar. 15, 1842, part of which is extant in a MS copy by Emerson himself, bearing his endorsement "Eloquence." The text of the part contained in that copy was printed in *Memoirs,* Boston, I, 285.

120. *Mark,* 9:24.

121. On Mar. 8, Margaret Fuller had written an account of Alcott's gratitude to Emerson (see a note on Mar. 10 and 12? 1842). In his letter of Mar. 10 and 12? Emerson had mentioned her flattery.

I like all these letters of Ellery's,[122] that to you especially; he should live here; he ought to write every month for the Dial which ought to have fifty thousand subscribers & ought to yield him house, diet, clothes, power, & fame — to him and to you and to whomsoever else you should appoint to your Prytaneum. Henry James in N. Y. I observed had the Dial on his table; the good Delf,[123] a young Englishman in the employment of Wiley & Putnam, loved by Dr Follen,[124] had much to say of it. Dear it plainly was to him & to other young men his friends in the city. " Whether " he modestly asked, " there could not be in every number one article that should be a statement of principles, good for doctrine good for edification." Why yes, I said, that seems reasonable. We will talk of it at home there. One would think that the business of life was to make Dials. Yet Inowhere do I find readers of the Dial Poetry which is my ' one thing needful ' [125] in the enterprize. I ask in vain after Z.[126] or H T or ' New Contributor ' of many a one. They wait till I have done & then inquire concerning [127] Mr Parker.I

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord? March 18, 1842 [128]

Friday Evening

Dear Margaret

I have tonight your sad & sudden conclusion.[129] That you should be such a lavish spender of time labor & health for our poor

122. Apparently the letters from William Ellery Channing the Younger mentioned in Margaret Fuller, Mar. 8, noted above.

123. *Cf. Journals,* VI, 164. On May 29, 1843, Thomas Delf wrote to Emerson that he was to leave New York the following day, on his way to London, where he was to act as agent for Appleton & Co.

124. Follen's death is recorded in Jan. 18, 1840.

125. *Cf. Luke,* 10:42.

126. " Z " was the usual signature of Caroline Sturgis in the early numbers of *The Dial.* By " H T," Emerson, of course, means Thoreau. " New Contributor " may refer, I conjecture, to some writer whose poems in *The Dial* are without signature, or to a purely imaginary person.

127. Theodore Parker had already published a number of contributions on literary or, especially, religious topics in *The Dial.*

128. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is merely " Miss Margaret Fuller." As the date is a Friday after Emerson's return from New York and before his letter of Mar. 21, it must be Mar. 18.

129. Margaret Fuller, Mar. *c.* 17, 1842 (the MS is without date except for Emerson's endorsement " March 1842 "). Higginson, *Margaret Fuller Ossoli,* pp. 168–169, prints a complete text, with slight additions to the original. In this letter Margaret Fuller announced that she could no longer afford to sacrifice the health and labor

Dial, with such a bankrupt's return, makes me very sorry. We are all your debtors & must always be. What to do, now? Miss Peabody has omitted to enclose in the pacquet the Address to the Public, you speak of. But there ought to be time — the press waiting or working, — for the needful questions to be asked — Whether Parker will undertake it? alone? if not so, with me? I think I could easily edit & fill *per alios vel per se* one Number. Two look formidable, & Four incredible. We must have so much time to consult upon & determine this matter as until the last days of this month when our determination may be printed on the covers or on a slip of paper accompanying the title page.

I would even promise for the July Number, but I am not ready tonight to say I will take it for a year. So tell your printers that we must have time to consult. I insert the page written this morning in quite other thoughts of our Future. But I hate to hear of your weakness & needs. Nobody is brave & faithful & self sufficing but you, so I think tonight, and "Rectitude God has taken to heart" forever & ever. And so you who cheer such & so many friends shall be of good cheer undoubtedly, & come to an issue of pure prosperity.

Yours

Waldo —

## To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, March 18, 1842 [130]

Concord, 18 March, 1842

My dear Charles,

Here am I safe at home again in these quiet meadows which no voice louder than a bluejays or now & then a barnyard cock's disturbs, all day, all night. At present for ten days to come, I have no calls from home that I know. Can you not therefore roll up your pilgrim's scrip, not forgetting also your pilgrim's scroll, take your shell &

---

which her editorial duties demanded and suggested that Parker or Emerson might take over the journal. She had hoped to get the facts before Emerson returned from New York, but he had come back sooner than she expected. She asked a prompt reply, as she had already written a notice about possible suspension and the press was waiting. Her letter was a supplement, she explained, to one from Elizabeth Peabody, and the two were apparently sent under the same cover.

130. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL. In earlier letters Emerson tells of meeting Newcomb in Providence. On Mar. 22 following, Newcomb replied to this invitation that he was getting ready to leave Providence for Roxbury (Brook Farm) for the summer, and would be ready to get into the first boat God should send down the river of time to carry him to Concord.

staff & come up hither tomorrow or next day at your earliest convenience. It is the privilege of your youthful & baccalaureate estate that you need no long summons no consultations but can go where you will when you will. Will you not come here now, & bring all the papers you can find leave in your heart to bring — The two Dolons [131] without fail, as I have set my heart on Elizabeth Hoar's hearing them. And here is Henry Thoreau. Come & stay a week if you can endure us so long If you are homesick, & the case is desperate, you shall go home the next morning. Only come.

Yours affectionately,

R. W. Emerson.

The Concord Coach leaves Earl Tavern 36 Hanover Street every morning at 6; every P. M. at 3: & on Tuesday Thursday & Saturday at 10 — A. M.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord? March 21, 1842 [132]

Monday Morn^g 21 March 1842

Dear Margaret,

I After thinking a little concerning this matter of the Dial, I incline to undertake it for a time, rather than have it stop or go into hands that know not Joseph.[133] I had rather it should not be suspended. Your friends are my friends & will give me such aid as they would have given you and my main resource is to adopt the expedient of Selection from old or from foreign books almost with the liberality to which Alcott would carry it — certainly to make Synesius or Lucian or Chaucer speak whenever a dull article is offered and rejected. Perhaps I shall rue this day of accepting such an intruder on my peace such a consumer of my time as a Dial Perhaps then I shall find some friendly Hercules who will lend a shoulder to uphold the little world. At all events you have played martyr a little too long alone: let there be rotation in martyrdom! Yet shall you not forget to help I to help. II I think also I had rather undertake it alone than with any partnership of oversight such as Mr Parker or Mr Ripley for example — So little skill have I in partnership that I am sure we should make each other mutu-

131. *Cf.* Mar. 10 and 12? 1842.

132. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–III are in Cooke, *An Historical and Biographical Introduction,* I, 92–93. It is not quite clear whether Emerson wrote " 20 " or " 21 " in the date line, but Mar. 21 fell on Monday in 1842.

133. *Exodus,* 1:8, and *The Acts,* 7:18.

ally uneasy. Now I will ask of them their whole aid & furtherance. So I think you shall withhold your Notice to subscribers [134] & I will immediately consult Fabricius *on Authors* [135] for solid continent to fill up July withal. You will see at once what folios of information on details & good advice for my first adventure I need Send me word that your head aches less with such prospect of present relief & we will hope that our Dial will one day grow so[II] great & [III]rich as to pay its old debts.[III]

Yours Waldo.

## To Frederic Henry Hedge, Concord, March 23, 1842 [136]

Concord, 23 March, 1842.

My dear Hedge,

Be it known to you that our poor Dial after staggering through two years of external weakness, friendlessness, *public*lessness, and *publisher*lessness, (forgive the words, they are too true) threatened last Saturday on an inspection that was made of its accounts [137] – to die of atrophy. The publishers, Weeks & Jordan, were not only extremely negligent but when they became bankrupt, were much in debt, I am told, to the little Journal. Margaret Fuller has never had a penny for all her time & toil; & now J F Clarke & E P Peabody discovered that they could rely only on 300 subscribers to yield, after deductions for agency but 750. dollars a year, and that the expenses of publishing amounted to 700. There was no chance, therefore, that Margaret should receive anything this year of fit remuneration. She decided to go on no farther. She has been too generous already, and is now far from well in bodily health. She sent me word of all this & put it to me whether the Dial should stop. Very unwillingly I assume the load for a time until a better person appears, more fit for this service & more

134. Mentioned in Margaret Fuller's letter of Mar. *c.* 17, 1842, already cited.

135. Emerson means, no doubt, the various critical works of Johann Albert Fabricius.

136. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–II are in Cabot, II, 407–408. The lines following the signature would tend to show that the letter was completed without delay, but the Concord postmark seems to bear the date Mar. 28, too imperfect, however, to afford conclusive evidence. Perhaps by a curious relapse into the geography of his boyhood days, Emerson addressed the letter to Hedge at Bangor, Mass.

137. *Cf.* Mar. 18, 1842, to Margaret Fuller. The inspection referred to seems to have occurred on Thursday, Mar. 17, or Friday, the 18th. Probably the figures quoted are from Elizabeth Peabody, Mar. *c.* 17, 1842, mentioned in Margaret Fuller's letter of the same date already cited.

fond of it. Meantime thus suddenly a new Number, the Number for July, is to be provided for. I recall the friends & favorers of the book, & you among the first. Frederic Henry Hedge, What say you? Have you any word to print on these Times? fact or thought; history, poem, or exhortation? I heartily wish you would send me some fragment of verse or prose that interests you, if you have not leisure or readiness to settle yourself to any labor for our thankless Magazine. I Poor Dial! It has not pleased any mortal. No man cried, God save it! And yet though it contains a deal of matter I could gladly spare, I yet value it as a portfolio which preserves & conveys to distant persons precisely what I should borrow & transcribe to send them if I could.I Then with all its demerits, it is regarded by several youths & maidens whom I have chanced to see, far-sundered about the country, with such religion, tenderness, & hope, that I dare not let it perish without an effort. II It wants mainly & only, some devotion on the part of its conductor to it, that it may not be the herbarium that it is of dried flowers, but the vehicle of some living & advancing mind. But nobody has yet conceived himself born for this end only.II

There is public enough, I am sure, for a spiritual writer. I was at New York lately & conversed with many persons who would gladly read him. The old things rattle louder & louder & will soon blow away. Yet this is not a question of *time* All obstructions are already blown away from him who has a thought a purpose in his mind. We cheat ourselves with hunting for phantoms of Church & State. When we awake they are fled dreams. But I wish to say of the Dial that I rely on one expedient to make it valuable namely a liberal selection of good matter from old or from foreign books when dull papers are offered & rejected. Every number can easily be so enriched that they shall certainly have a permanent value for the library. If now, my dear friend, you have any hints for its better conduct or any matter in possession or in prospect or contingency for its pages will you not for the love of America & of your friends & of me, send me it, or promise of it. Yours affectionately R. W. Emerson. A young genius whom I found in Providence the other day read a beautiful tale [138] which he promises to give. Excellent verses have I called " Autumn Leaves " [139] from another correspondent. Alcott is just setting out for England [140] & promises chapters of Intelligence. Stearns

138. See Mar. 18, 1842, to Newcomb.

139. Eliza T. Clapp's poem, published in *The Dial* for July, 1842, the first number issued under Emerson's sole guidance.

140. He was delayed; see May 8, 1842.

Wheeler goes to Europe in August & shall do the same.[141] If you see Stone [142] or Prest Wood [143] engage them to befriend us. What is Intelligence from England to real spiritual intelligence from Maine or from Wisconsin?

### To Albert Brisbane, Boston? March 26? 1842

[Mentioned in Mar. 26, 1842.]

### To William Emerson, Boston, March 26, 1842 [144]

Boston, 26 March, 1842

Dear William,

The letter & the pacquet by Harnden arrived safely, all thanks to your untiring care. I am sending back Brisbanes article on " Science " &c for the Dial,[145] today through Miss Peabody to the care of Greeley and in my letter [146] I have instructed Mr B. if he decides to send me the paper modified as I suggest to send it to you at Wall Street directed to me. If he should do so, will you not see that it is forwarded to me by Harnden if a good private opportunity does not occur in a few days. If private opportunities come send anything of the literary nature to care of E. P. Peabody, 211 [147] Washington Street. And whenever you send by Harnden see that you charge me properly in the Account This lubricity of Mr Prichard's in that affair of 18 Dollars [148] begets in me a terror of my friends. This watching people lest they cheat themselves we must unlearn all our habits, to acquire.

I have to tell you that Margaret Fuller has resigned the care of the Dial, & put on me the question whether the Dial shall end now with its April Number.

Sadly, reluctantly, I have decided in the few hours that were given

141. See Aug. 4, 1842, and later letters.

142. Thomas Treadwell Stone lived in Maine.

143. Emerson doubtless meant the president of Bowdoin College, the younger Leonard Woods, not Wood.

144. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

145. Brisbane's " Means of Effecting a Final Reconciliation between Religion and Science " was finally accepted but was reduced in bulk and appeared in *The Dial* for July, 1842, as an appendage of Emerson's " Fourierism and the Socialists."

146. Letter of Mar. 26? 1842.

147. Given as 109 in Elizabeth Peabody's advertisement in the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, Mar. 26, 1842.

148. See Mar. 18, 1842, to William Emerson.

for the deliberation that I would try it myself. And I am in town today to ask the needful questions & acquaint myself with its worldly & spiritual condition After having had or having been alleged to have had 5 or 600 subscribers a sifting analysis finds now but 300 paying ones. It is at its lowest ebb & must greatly increase. or soon end. I am unwilling to disappoint the little company who have really looked to it with a certain religion, tenderness & hope, and I think it may be made greatly better without killing its editor. I shall make the trial of one or two numbers at least. Mr Bryant was very generous in his compliments [149] to our Lectures. I think I must send him the new Dial. With this bad ink & in this strange place, I will write no more than to send remembrances of grateful love. Waldo.

I called this morn[g] to visit Mrs Greeley, the first time since the death of Mrs Clapp.[150] Her husband came to the door to tell me that she was dying.

## To Margaret Fuller, Boston, March? 26? 1842? [151]

Boston, Saturday

Dear Margaret,

If you come into town to the hearing of the Oratorio, I shall be at Winthrop Place But I hate to hear that you are not yet strong: and you perhaps had better stay at home & let me see you there.

Yours ever

Waldo

149. William Emerson, Mar. 22, 1842 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), said he was sending a copy of the semiweekly edition of *The Evening Post*. It apparently contained the same review of the lectures already cited in a note on Mar. 3, 1842.

150. Mary Paine Clap (or Clapp), who died Feb. 27, 1842, and Maria Paine Greele (wife of Samuel Greele), who died Mar. 26 following, were daughters of the Hon. Robert Treat Paine (*Boston Daily Advertiser*, Mar. 3 and 31, and *Christian Register*, Apr. 16, 1842).

151. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Ellery St., Cambridge. The date I have supplied is at least a plausible conjecture. The Fullers lived on Ellery St., Cambridge, from the spring of 1842 to July, 1843 (Higginson, *Margaret Fuller Ossoli*, p. 107); but Margaret was away on her Western journey after May 25, 1843. We know from the letter of Mar. 26, 1842, to his brother William, that Emerson was in Boston on that Saturday. As he decided only a few days before to take over *The Dial*, he would naturally have wished to see both the publishers and Margaret Fuller, the retiring editor. In the letter to his brother he said he was in town to ask "the needful questions" about the "worldly & spiritual condition" of *The Dial*. If the note was written on Mar. 26, 1842, the oratorio referred to was Ludwig Spohr's "The Last Judgment," sung

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, March 31, 1842

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

### To John Sterling, Concord, April 1, 1842

[MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Printed in *The Atlantic*, LXXX, 24–25 (July, 1897), and in *A Correspondence*, pp. 49–52. In both printed versions the name "Russell" is represented by a dash and this final paragraph is omitted:

"I am so willing to be kindly remembered by you & your friends, that I will go now & find a few verses by way of autograph for the fair neighbor of whom you make mention and if I run this bold risk I hope you will impute it to me for love."

A sentence in another margin of the superscription seems not to be Emerson's.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, April 2, 1842 [152]

Concord, 2 April, 1842.

Dear William,

I received day before yesterday your letter & the enclosed order for $164.40 on my return from Boston. The account seems correct, only that you still omit some items which were not charged in the Ticket Account e.g. the porter, who carried my trunk to Mrs Cadle's.[153] I believe I have yet no bill for Bulkeley since we settled his expenses last. — I learn today that the City Bank again declares *No dividend,* which makes me a loss of $900.00 in 18 months. Abel Adams says that while an amount of $19000. is pending betwixt this & the Eagle Bank — *which shall lose it*?, through the fraud of a cashier, they do not think it prudent to divide. Yet, he says, if they lose it, the stock is still worth 90 cents. It was quoted lately at 77 cents.[154] Cartwright, the President, came in to office since the bad debts were made, & is greatly trusted.[155]

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on Sunday, Mar. 27 (*Commemorative Record of the Handel and Haydn Society of Boston, 1815–1903*, n.d. [1903]); but oratorios were so much the vogue in 1842 and 1843 that this evidence is quite inconclusive. And Abel Adams lived at Winthrop Place too many years to make that address of any special significance. The statement that Margaret Fuller is "not yet strong" would fit the conjectural date very well (*cf.* Mar. 21, 1842); but her times of ill health were frequent. The date must remain, then, within the limits of the spring of 1842 and May, 1843, very doubtful.

152. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

153. *Cf.* Mar. 18, 1842, to William Emerson.

154. For example, in the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, Mar. 28, 1842.

155. *Cf.* Oct. 7, 1841, to William.

What can I tell you? Our Bible Convention [156] fell through by adjournment *sine die,* at the end of the first day. I was on my way to it the second morning It shd have been holden for three days. As a historian of the Times one would certainly wish to be there. These Chardon Street conventions to which this was the sequel have been full of all the Protest of Protest; all the fanaticism of all shades & forms: three men with long beards have attended them; Mormons came & spoke. The Bible Society had its agent with tracts at the door; mad men & mad women were there, & madly did behave; and much enthusiasm wit & eloquence, even some learning was found. Alcott has been the genius of these meetings; a man named Whiting,[157] a shoemaker of Marshfield the orator of them.

George Bradford has been here to visit me. He goes to Plymouth to till the land with Marston Watson a graduate recently of Cambridge. They mean to trundle their produce in a wheelbarrow or hand cart up & down the Plymouth streets for sale. George has made great strides within a year or two in determination and in the defining of his aims: and always he is a refreshment to my eyes. The hard times in Boston, (I wonder I did not hear in N. Y. that they were hard beyond example, as they now say in B) have added new favor & interest to the agricultural projects; and as a shrewd merchant by the name of Clapp said to me the other day of G. Ripley's & of Brisbane's communities it must happen presently that Associations will change & control the price of bread as the Manufacturing & Commercial Associations have done the price of cotton; and farmers will be driven into associations in self defence. Alas for the hermits when that day comes! Alas for the Family! When all are rich we shall cry for poverty dear poverty again. All the romance of life will centre there. And this reminds me that Delf [158] of Wiley & Putnam has sent me lately " Borrow's Gipsies " [159] which is a

156. The *Concord Freeman* of Jan. 7, 1842, had announced that Emerson, Alcott, and other members of the committee appointed at the meeting held at the Chardon St. chapel the preceding October had called a " Bible Convention " to meet in Boston on Mar. 29, to discuss the validity of the Scriptures. The *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Mar. 30, 1842, reported the convention of the previous day, in which Alcott had a prominent part. An agent of the American Tract Society, says the account, was stationed at the door to distribute copies of a publication " entitled 'a Word for the Bible.' " Emerson's article " Chardon Street and Bible Conventions " was printed in *The Dial* for July, 1842.

157. Nathaniel H. Whiting, who later won some local notoriety as a political figure, has an important place in the newspaper report cited above and in Emerson's article on the same subject.

158. See Mar. 18? 1842.

159. An American edition of *The Zincali* was published by Wiley & Putnam

book containing some passages of great interest about the strange vagrants. You must borrow it at the Society Library & carry it home to Susan Twenty pages or more are fascinating but these are scattered about the book. We are all well. and Edith improves day by day. I am glad that Haven mends also. Every good spirit dwell with you & your wife & boys! Mother & Lidian send love. Waldo —

/Over

I have received $397. of Mr Cutler [160] Mr R. Haskins has not yet sent me his account so I do not know how much I was to receive for you from him.

I have written a notice of Mrs Joy in the " Register " of this day.[161]

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord? April 2? 1842 [162]

Dear Margaret,

I send you Borrow's Gipsies [163] which you shall leave

in 1842. The book was advertised for sale in Boston in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Mar. 31 of the same year. Emerson reviewed it in *The Dial* for the following July.

160. Pliny Cutler is mentioned in many earlier letters as executor of the Tucker estate. He was now president of the Atlantic Bank (*Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1842).

161. This considerable notice, an uncollected and, I believe, unlisted, Emerson item, appeared in the *Christian Register*, Apr. 2, 1842, where it was introduced by a paragraph apparently from a letter written to the editors:

" Messrs. Editors, — On my return home from a recent journey I looked in vain in your paper for some sketch of a character so admirable as that of the late Mrs. Hannah Joy. From what motives of delicacy or respect to the dead, this duty to the survivor has been omitted, I know not. I think that a community in which she was so much known and beloved cannot suffer a name so dear to pass away in silence."

Doubtless Emerson remembered Hannah Joy's kindnesses to his own family when he wrote: " Although rich, yet habitually modest in her own expense, she delighted from youth to age in constant acts of generosity . . . She had that more than royal grace of giving which confers an honor as well as a favor in every action. We are all the debtors of that soul which wears the weeds of our nature with dignity . . ." Her behavior, he wrote, " was so charming that men of fine intellect and men of great energy of action might well pause respectfully before a woman so excellent in her mind . . ." She " never undertook the reform of mankind, but poured out the treasures of that excellent spirit which was in her, there where her birth had placed her." Of her politeness he said that it " was not kept for holidays and for strangers, but was as flowing toward every member of her family as to the most honored stranger."

162. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The mention of " Saturday a week ago " seems to indicate that the letter was written on a Saturday, and other evidence cited below shows that if the day was Saturday it was Apr. 2, 1842.

163. In the letter of Apr. 2, 1842, to William, Emerson says he lately received

at 2 Winthrop Place when you have done with it, or at Miss Peabody's. I am to put some notice of it in the Dial by way of acknowledging Mr Delf's courtesy. Perhaps I shall find that notice in your letter when it comes back. Perhaps I shall not. I wish you not to be teazed by me or any other person. There is a notice of the intended sale of Goethe's cabinet at Weimar in the weekly " Tribune " of Saturday a week ago [164] — which will interest you. There is an article in the Foreign Review which Miss Peabody sent me & which I return to her today on Passavants Life of Raffaelle [165] that you should see. In all sooth & earnest I & Lidian my wife entreat you to consider that this house is one of your homes, and that we account ourselves both gladdened & honored whenever you will come & stay with us. Come when you can & will. You shall not interrupt me, nor will I you.

Ever yours,
Waldo.

### To S. K. Lothrop, Concord? April 4, 1842

[Acknowledged in Lothrop, endorsed Apr., 1842, which apologizes for his failure to correct the proofs of Emerson's notice of Mrs. Joy. Lothrop's letter bears a postmark dated April, with, I think, a " 6 " stamped over a " 5."]

### To Theodore Parker, Concord, April 6, 1842 [166]

Concord 6 April 1842

My dear Sir,

I ought to have written you many days ago to say, that since Margaret Fuller has put it on me to decide whether the Dial

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this book from Delf; and in her letter of the following Saturday, Apr. 9, Margaret Fuller reports her interest in it, apparently after reading Emerson's copy, but says she does not wish to review it.

164. This news appeared in the *New-York Weekly Tribune* on Saturday, Mar. 26, 1842.

165. The first two parts of Johann David Passavant's *Rafael von Urbino,* Leipsic, 1839, are discussed at great length in *The Quarterly Review* for June, 1840; and it was doubtless this, and not *The Foreign Quarterly Review,* that Emerson had in mind.

166. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Parker wrote in reply, from West Roxbury, Apr. 7, 1842, that he would help and suggested some reviews and literary notices he might have ready by June 1 but not by May 1. He had, he explained, two books in the press, one of which would be published about May 20. As to means for the better conduct of the journal, his advice was that Emerson himself should write a large part of the contents.

should live or die, saying that if it lived it must be by my nursing; and since I have decided that it shall be reprieved for another year; in this state of things, I must crave your countenance & aid as an element of its life. I am very well aware of the importance of your past contributions to the fame and to the existence of the Journal; & I have always heard from Miss Fuller testimonies to the uniform accuracy & generosity which she could rely on finding in yourself in reference to these matters. By these merits I adjure you to renew & multiply the same for the time to come in favor of our little Journal. I hope it will one of these days be stronger & better. Its days of infancy are somewhat prolonged already. Can you not give me a paper for the July Number? Can you not give me such as early as the 1st May?

Perhaps you have Foreign Literary or Theological Intelligence that would be valuable to us. Perhaps you have some good suggestions for the better conduct of the paper. I shall receive thankfully any communication from you on the subject. And if you should come into Middlesex I beg you will give me the pleasure of seeing you at my house.

Yours respectfully,

R. W. Emerson

Theodore Parker.

### To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, April 9, 1842 [167]

Concord, 9 April, 1842.

My dear Sir,

I cannot tell why you will not come & see me when I ask you so heartily, you who are so goodnatured & so much your own master. [1]If Corinna or if the Delphic Sybil were here, would you not come breathless with speed? Yet I told you that Elizabeth Hoar was here, & yet you come not. If Old Pan were here, you would come; and we have young Pan under another name [168] whom also you shall see & hear his reeds, if you tarry not.[1] But I learned last night that my sister E. H. will go to Boston probably a week from next Monday to spend two or three weeks: so I thought I would write to you & beg you to come hither now before she goes, for since sickness appears to be the health of

167. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is in *Memoirs of Members of the Social Circle*, 2d series, 2d part, p. 112 (same page in *Emerson in Concord*). The superscription is to Newcomb in care of George Ripley, West Roxbury — *i.e.*, Brook Farm.

168. Thoreau.

this generation, & mobility their only permanent state, whatever pleasures we would secure for them must be got quickly. Come now for me & you can come by & by for thee. Be sure to bring the Dolon & whatever else you will; but Dolon I learned with much satisfaction from Margaret Fuller, you would give me for the Dial.[169]

R. W. Emerson —

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, April 10, 1842[170]

Concord, 10 April, 1842.

My dear Margaret, You write as if there was something unexpected to you in my Editorship? I have not seen it announced in the news-

169. *Cf.* Mar. 18, 1842, to Newcomb.

170. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is an answer to Margaret Fuller's letter written the day before but not mailed till the 10th:

"Boston,
"9th April, 1842.

"Dear Waldo,

"I understand you have given notice to the Public, that, the Dial is to be under your care in future, & I am very glad of this for several reasons, though I did not like to express my feeling as you seemed reluctant to bind yourself in any way. But a year is short time enough for a fair trial.

"Since it is now understood that you are Pilot, it is not needful for me to make the observations I had in view. The work cannot but change its character a good deal, but it will now be understood there is a change of director, too. The only way in which this is of importance to me is that I think you will sometimes reject pieces that I should not. For you have always had in view to make a good periodical and represent your own tastes, while I have had in view to let all kinds of people have freedom to say their say, for better, for worse.

"Should time and my mood be propitious, I should like to write some pages on the amusements here this past winter, & a notice at some length of Hawthorne's Twice told tales. I was much interested by the Gipsey book, but dont incline to write about it — Longfellow sent us his poems, and if you have toleration for them, it would be well to have a short notice written by some one (*not* me) — I will have them sent to you & the little prayer book also. If you do not receive the latter, it will be because I could not get it, not because I have forgotten your wish. Please mention in your next, whether you did not find 'Napoleon.' I do not see it among my papers, and think I must have given it you.

"As to pecuniary matters, Miss Peabody I have found more exact & judicious than I expected, but she is variable in her attention, because she has so many private affairs. She will do very well under your supervision, but a connection with her offers no advantages for the spread of your work whatever it may be. But you have always thought the Dial required nothing of this kind. Much, much do I wish for myself I could find a publisher who is honest, and has also business talents. Such a connexion ought to be permanent. But I can hear of no person in Boston or elsewhere that it is desirable to be connected with, so I suppose I must still jog

paper,[171] but supposed it all settled in my first reply to you weeks ago. Mr Presbury's[172] poem is not in the collection you gave me: I have therefore made no reply to his letter, I ought to have told you this earlier. I have written to Hedge & to Parker for aid,[173] & have good letters from both.

I shall rejoice in such a paper as you propose on the Boston Entertainments; or in any other paper you shall have spirit & leisure to prepare; but I had rather you should send me none than have one headache: and if you will take care to have no headaches, I shall have more papers from you in time to come.

I am reading & writing a little lately with interest, & putting far from me all thoughts of the Dial until 1 May. I have had some guests,[174] now & then a passage of conversation, and a glance at the bright wonder of life but when I read geology I observe that sandstone is a more fre-

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on as before, this dubious pace. But if ever you get any light in this quarter, pray impart.

"I should think the Dial affairs were now in such a state that you could see clear into the coming year, and might economize about it considerably.

"Well! I believe this is all I have to say, not much truly.

"I leave town Monday eveg & go to Cambridge for a few days. On Friday or Saturday I go to Canton to board with an Aunt of mine for four or five weeks. I think I shall be there perfectly retired and quiet; it suits my convenience in many respects to go. I wish I could feel as if the Muse would favor me there and then, but I feel at present so sad and languid, as if I should not know an hour of bright life again. It will be pity if this hangs about me just at the time when I might obey inspirations, if I had them, but these things are beyond control, and the demon no more forgets us than the angel. I will make myself no more promises *in time.* If you have any thing to say to me I should receive a letter here as late as Friday morng, if directed to Miss Peabody's care. Afterward direct to me at Canton, Care Charles Crane.

"I thank you and Lidian for your invitation and know well your untiring hospitality. Should it seem well so to do, I will come. I cannot now tell how I shall feel. After Canton I shall go to Providence, for a few days, then to N. Bedford to pass a week with Aunt Mary Rotch. Farewell, dear Waldo. Yours as ever,

"Margaret.

"I still have thoughts of going to the West, but shall not know about it for some weeks."

171. The report had by this time gone as far as New York. On Apr. 9, 1842, the reviewer of *The Dial,* No. 8, in the *New-York Weekly Tribune* wrote: "We hear . . . with joy that RALPH WALDO EMERSON has resumed the Editorship, and will hereafter devote his powerful pen to its support."

172. For Presbury, see Nov. 9, 1841. His only known contributions printed in *The Dial* are those in the number for Jan., 1842.

173. Letters of Mar. 23 and Apr. 6, 1842.

174. *Cf. Journals,* VI, 193.

quent formation than coal, & coal more frequent than the fossil of beast or bird with fossil eye that records the existence of light & the sun glowing as today on the fens of billions of ages behind. I read a little lately in the " Scientific Surveys " of Massachusetts by Messrs Harris Dewey Storer Gould Emmons [175] By what chance or lucid interval or kindly overruling, came our good Legislature to give itself this bright vacation from Whig & Tory voting lists, from New Valuations, & Revised Statutes, and lend itself to be led for a time by the Boston Society of Natural History? I went, when I was in Boston last time, to the Secretary's office at the state house & begged of him this series of Reports. All of them but Hitchcock's,[176] which is a swollen quarto, I got; and this day I have, as I hope, set Henry Thoreau on the good track of giving an account of them in the Dial,[177] explaining to him the felicity of the subject for him as it admits of the narrative of all his woodcraft boatcraft & fishcraft. Henry is quite unable to labor lately since his sickness, & so must resign the garden into other hands, but as private secretary to the President of the Dial, his works & fame may go out into all lands, and, as happens to great Premiers, quite extinguish the titular Master. My reading lately is to the subject of Poetry,[178] which has at least this advantage over many others, that it pays the student well day by day, even if it should fail to reward his inquisition with one adequate perception after many days & nights. The custom of that enchanted hall I have often heard of, I have often experienced. The Muse receives you at the door with Godlike hospitality gives bread & wine & blandishment will turn the world for you into a ballad drives you mad with a ballad with a verse with a syllable, leaves you with that, & Behold! afar off shines the Muse & her mountain, shines Homer & Shakspeare, shines the world unexplained; and I torturing. my syllable. So it will be until we deserve a better fate. Farewell my dear friend, let not me be visited by all courteous & all tedious persons & never compensated by a visit from wise & endeared spirits. Waldo

175. The Massachusetts scientific studies here referred to were Thaddeus W. Harris's *A Report on the Insects,* 1841; Chester Dewey's *Report on the Herbaceous Flowering Plants,* 1840; David H. Storer's accounts of fishes and reptiles in *Reports on the Fishes, Reptiles and Birds,* 1839; Augustus A. Gould's *Report on the Invertebrata,* 1841; and Ebenezer Emmons's *A Report on the Quadrupeds,* 1840.

176. Edward Hitchcock had written several reports on the geology of Massachusetts.

177. " Natural History of Massachusetts," *The Dial,* July, 1842.

178. *Cf.* the letter of May 29 and 31 and June 3, 1842, and *Journals,* VI, 183 ff. " The Poet " appeared in the second series of *Essays,* 1844.

### To Caroline Sturgis, Concord? April? *c.* 10? 1842 [179]

Not " quite unsatisfactory," or I should not come. After my Broadway residence & experiences now for two or three weeks, I seem to have passed out of a limbo of surfaces, a world wh. was all surface, to this solid solitude & cubic day wh. I find at home. In my way from that to this it is quite natural that I should question any of the apparitions wh. chance to look less flimsy — should desire to touch any that look like diamond & granite, like love & truth, even tho' I still have on my inveterate costume & habitude acquired in that spectral world, & not the domestic plain & cordial ways wh. deserve & wh. draw the heart & the soul. And yet what has Broadway to do with it? Only this, that Broadway may stand well eno' for second thought & ambition, — & those whom I love, I know not by what infirmity of mine do always come to me attended with flights of these flies. And yet you, dear Caroline, have always confided in me & have said what was brave & noble, despising the second thought; you deserve better of me than that I should come encompassed by east wind & agues. It shall be recorded to your praise in the angel's books, & I shall be the happier for it as long as I exist: & one day the snows will melt, & the climate be ameliorated, palm & cactus will grow, & for east wind we shall have warm monsoons.

### To Abel Adams, Concord, April 19, 1842 [180]

Concord, 19 April, 1842

My dear Sir,

Thanks for your kind information respecting the " Messenger." I supposed at first that Mr Alcott would willingly learn of this delay as he had told me that his matters in Chancery were not quite settled. But today he told me that he is now quite ready to sail, & is not advantaged by waiting perhaps 25 days. So I thought I would say to you that if the Empress is not gone yet or if the Rosalind, which he

179. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is a copy, apparently incomplete, in Cabot's hand. The copyist has indicated the person addressed and the year. If this letter was written " two or three weeks " after Emerson's return from New York, the day must have been early in April (*cf.* letters of Mar. 16 and 18, 1842).

180. MS owned by Miss Clara Endicott Sears, in the Alcott house at Fruitlands. I have made a MS copy, which is in CUL. The " Messenger " actually sailed on May 26 (*Boston Daily Advertiser*, May 27, 1842); the " Empress " cleared on Apr. 22 (*ibid.*, Apr. 23). For the " Rosalind," see May 8, 1842.

heard of, is to sail sooner, he would rather go sooner with inferior accommodations, than wait for better. The expense is of some importance; and if it is materially cheaper to go in the Messenger, he will wait. If he can go for the same money in one of the others, please to let me know when they sail.

If it had been a fair day today, we had expected Mr and Mrs Bancroft to come & see us — for I am to show him the Battle-Field, and this is the Battle Anniversary. I shall look for him on the first fair day. When he has been here, I mean to come & see you.

Yours ever,
R. W. Emerson.

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord? May? *c.* 6? 1842

[Under date of May 6, 1842, Alcott wrote in his diary (MS owned by Mr. F. W. Pratt): "Took leave of my family this morning . . . and rode to Boston, in season to make some purchases for my voyage. — Emerson gave me letters to Carlyle and Miss Martineau." For Alcott's bad luck with Carlyle, see Sanborn and Harris, I, 336 ff. Probably Emerson wrote at least one other letter of introduction to Carlyle between Mar. 31 and July 1 of this year (see the mention of "various intermediate Notes" in Carlyle, July 19, 1842, in *C–E Corr.*).]

### To Harriet Martineau, Concord? May? *c.* 6? 1842

[Mentioned in the preceding note.]

### To Elizabeth Hoar, Concord, May 7 and 8, 1842 [181]

Concord, 7 May, 1842 —

Dear Elizabeth

I was very sorry to leave town a week and a day ago without coming to see you, but found no time. And there is no need to write to you now that you are full of friends. But I wish to say that Mrs Ellen Hooper told me the other day in the street, on my application to her for verses for the Dial, that if she had any verses, I might read them, though she would promise nothing for the book. Now I wish you would ask her for such leaves as she has, before you quit Boston, and bring them home to me. I will not make any further use of them without her permission, of course; yet if I find anything as good as some of the old ones, I think she will consent to its publication. Henry Hedge has been

181. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is in *Cent. Ed.*, IV, 310; it is partly printed in Cabot, II, 623–624.

here & made us some good promises of aid for the time to come. We liked him better than ever. He is an excellent element of a good society, & we should need to look long for a man like him. He would be very content to live in Concord, if he had confidence that he could gain a support from lectures in the winter, and had been inquiring of Mr Ripley on what terms the old Manse was to be had. Also Mr Hawthorn wants that. Concord will come to honor yet.[182] A geological Doctor Jackson of Philadelphia has also spent a day with us chiefly interesting for his love, & faith in Mr Vanuxem,[183] an ingenious & spiritual man of science in Phila. & of a fine character, whom I saw when last in town at Dr C. T. J.'s.

Mr Alcott left us yesterday, & should sail today or tomorrow for London in the Rosalind.

Sunday Eve; 8th Mr Hawthorn & Miss Peabody came yesterday & hindered my letter from the mail, but if they shall come to live here I shall be content. It seems they are sent by you. I like him well. We are all well — as usual. Shall we ever be better? Shall we ever have victories to announce over things, over ourselves? A letter from a wise soul ought to be good news in every syllable though written from the loneliest spot. Well, one of these days; in some new thought, we shall be clothed with power. I have not seen yet the new Wordsworth poems[184] — but I I read last week the Protagoras & Theages in Plato.[185] The first is excellent & gave me much to think. With what security & common sense this Plato treads the cliffs & pinnacles of Parnassus, as if he walked in a street, & comes down again into the street, as if he lived there. My dazzling friends of Alexandria, the New Platonists, have none of this air of facts & society about them. This Socrates is as good as Don Quixote, all the time. What impenetrable armour of witty courtesy covers him every moment! I Dear Elizabeth, you must see & hear & think for us all, but mainly see that you have a good visit; then shall we all be served. With dear love from Lidian & from Mamma to you you shall be sure also of your brother

Waldo.

182. The letters reveal from time to time Emerson's enthusiasm for the idea of drawing to Concord a number of intellectuals who should be a community with no formal ties but with all the cultural advantages that the members of Brook Farm hoped to find at West Roxbury. *Cf.* also *Journals*, VI, 207.

183. Doubtless Lardner Vanuxem.

184. See July 19, 1842.

185. Probably in the Sydenham and Taylor edition of *The Works*, 1804, where both dialogues appear in Vol. V (*cf.* Mar. 17, 1828).

## To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, May 7 and 8, 1842 [186]

Concord, 7 May, 1842.

My dear Charles,

I am glad you have been so happily employed,[187] if I have lost the benefit of seeing you when I had most leisure and when my jewels were in my kingdom. Now my sister Elizabeth is in Boston, & Mr Alcott sails for England today or tomorrow. But Thoreau is still here, & E. H. will return again. Meantime I wish to secure the *first* Dolon for the July *Dial.* I have set my heart on it & cannot be denied; so I pray you to let no dreams, hallucinations ' delays of genius,' & the like, interrupt the speedy ordering & transmission to me of that manuscript. If you are at this instant of time enjoying the favor of heaven and receiving new communications, I shall not ask you to go back to the old, for I am not impious. In that case, send me the papers & I will find a Baruch [188] who shall copy them. But on no other condition can I desist from my claim.

The other claim I have to make is this. Caroline Sturgis has given me leave to select anything that suits my purpose from her last summer's verses which, she says, you have. I desire that you will seal them up & send them at your earliest opportunity to Miss Peabody in West Street, addressed to me. So shall this muse again & other muses hereafter if other such there be, be propitious to you.

I ask now only for the first Dolon, but I want the *second* to follow this in October.

8 May

This letter was interrupted in the midst of the last page by Mr Hawthorn's visit who came to Concord to look for a house.[189] Cannot you one day come hither to look for a house? Mr Bradford will also. Those of us who do not believe in Communities, believe in neighborhoods & that the kingdom of heaven may consist of such. Tell Mr Ripley that Mr Edmund Hosmer, a farmer here of whom he has heard, has a great

186. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL.

187. Newcomb, Apr. 29, 1842, said he would have come to Concord had he received Emerson's letter (of Apr. 9) at the time, but he did not know of it till he arrived at West Roxbury (Brook Farm) on the 28th. He had been " employed," apparently, mainly in contemplation and perhaps in writing.

188. *Jeremiah,* 36:4 ff.

189. Hawthorne, whose name caused Emerson some difficulty for a time, was already interested in the Old Manse (*cf.* the letter of the same date to Elizabeth Hoar).

desire to see Brook Farm, and can only leave his work conveniently on Sunday. Therefore if he do not forbid it, I shall bring him on some Sunday soon. He should be your foreman at B. F. We think him here an inestimable man. Farewell.

R. W. Emerson.

## To William Emerson, Concord, May 8, 1842 [190]

Concord 8 May 1842

Dear William,

I use the occasion of Miss P. Ward's visit to the Anti-slavery Convention [191] to send you these pamphlets which you asked for. I do not know that I have another copy of the Divinity Hall Address, and it is long ago out of print; but Mother has one: which will suffice for me. But of all the others I can send you more copies, if you want, as easily as not. Yet perhaps not of the Concord Discourse.

How have you all lived & done for these long weeks that we have not heard of you except verbally by Mr Lewis? Mother has been in Boston for a fortnight & has given us a very good account of her seeings & hearings there. Elizabeth H. is there also. We have been getting away Mr Alcott. He sailed probably today for London in the Rosalind.[192] Mr Hawthorn, the Tale-teller, was here yesterday, to look at Dr Ripley's house with a view to rent it – Henry Hedge was here last week & thought he might come & live if Boston & N. Y. would let him lecture in the winters. The little Edith is a noble babe and, tell Willie & Haven, will, one of these days make the rarest cousin. Can you not send by Miss Ward my Lecture on "Manners"? [193] Love to Susan; and send us soon some good word.

Yours affectionately

Waldo.

190. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

191. The ninth anniversary meeting of the American Anti-slavery Society was held in New York on May 10 (*National Anti-slavery Standard*, May 19, 1842). A Miss Prudence Ward, who lived at this time with the Thoreaus in Concord, seems to have been an active antislavery worker (F. B. Sanborn, *Bronson Alcott at Alcott House, England, and Fruitlands*, 1908, pp. 28–29).

192. Alcott was listed among the passengers in the ship "Rosalind" when she sailed for London on May 8 (*Boston Daily Advertiser*, May 9, 1842). For Emerson's activity in raising funds for the voyage, see Feb. 8, 1842.

193. William Emerson, May 13, 1842 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), says he returns the lecture "Manners" by Miss Ward but that his wife retains another lecture a few days longer.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, May 9, 1842 [194]

Concord 9 May 1842

Dear Margaret,

Whence this long solitude? [195] My voice sounds hollow and we shall quickly be oaks & maples. Let there be society again, saith our God. Have you become a singing reed by the water courses, or a silent Oread on a hill? [196] Compensation for an intellect & a benevolence too flowing: but too much compensation. The halls are silent, let the music sound.[197] For me who have leaned on you so long for so much good & fair, it will not do to be forsaken now too when in a short week or two this Dial business will be to be despatched. Have you remembered it, and got me ready a paper on the Amusements of the last Winter? [198] It does not yet appear very distinctly what we shall have. And I do not wish to write it all myself. But my great adjutants, though they promise liberally promise indefinitely, and perhaps will not be available until October. I have not yet Dolon in my hands, and though I have written to C. K. N. again, I shall not trust in it until I see it.

Henry Hedge was here the other day & was excellent company. I think myself highly ungrateful to have underestimated that man How rare to find a man so well mixed & so intellectual: In this country a nonpareil. He talked too of coming here to live, if he could only be sure of lecturing in the cities in winter. Here too was Hawthorn on Saturday to see Dr Ripley's house, where he thinks to live. If Hedge should come, George P. B. would certainly. Alcott sailed on Sunday for England; but will no doubt return to Concord, when he returns, & he has left here his brother Junius who is a philosopher himself, & if he be less than his elder brother in capacity is probably superior to him in faculty as we in New England say. I think then that whilst you see our fair prospects for a good neighborhood you will not pitch your tent any where else for good. I heartily wish we could back our claims on you by wilder hills & broader streams; but wherever there is a horizon, there is

194. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

195. Margaret Fuller had written from Canton, Mass., on April 18, a letter partly printed in Higginson, *Margaret Fuller Ossoli,* pp. 169–170. The present letter was addressed to her at Canton.

196. Just possibly, Emerson vaguely recollected Wordsworth's fanciful Oreads in *The Excursion,* IV, 873 ff., who were certainly silent though "sporting visibly" on their hills.

197. Perhaps Emerson was thinking of the Ossianic poems; *cf.* Jan. 5, 1817.

198. *Cf.* Apr. 10, 1842, and the letter of May 29 and 31 and June 3 following.

more beauty & astonishment than we can dispose of. S. G. W. writes me that Anna's brother Jacob [199] has killed himself. I have never seen him. Sometimes we see that that act may be great, but it very seldom is so: More often it is as Adam Smith said the greatest piece of impertinence that a man can be guilty of.[200] When I was last at W's, Anna read me some fine flowing verses written to her by her brother Robert who died. Jones Very wrote me today a letter with an indifferent poem. Henry T. announces fifty or sixty pages of MS in a state approaching completion & I shall be summoned soon to a reading — This for the Dial. Brisbane does not send me back the paper I returned to him.[201] Farewell, dear friend, I have exhausted my little chapter of accidents & have nothing to add today. This letter comes merely as adjuration to constrain the Spirit to speak. Your friend

Waldo

## To Theodore Parker, Concord, May 11, 1842 [202]

Concord, 11 May, 1842

My dear Sir,

As the 20th May approaches which you thought would end one of your tasks [203] & leave you as it seemed one of your two hands disengaged for new beneficence it is time to reply to your note by saying that you shall choose which of the topics you name, that pleases you best whether Pierpont, whether Strauss,[204] for the help of the Dial. Perhaps I incline to prefer the second subject a little, for this reason, that although the injury done to Mr Pierpont in that controversy may be indefensible *in the forms,* yet there probably existed in this case that *general objection* to the pastor which could not get stated, yet which is

199. Jacob Barker, brother of Anna Barker Ward, died Apr. 27, 1842 (E. F. Barker, *Barker Genealogy,* 1927, p. 181).

200. The idea, not in the same words, occurs in *The Theory of Moral Sentiments,* Boston, 1817, II, 136.

201. *Cf.* Mar. 26, 1842.

202. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

203. *Cf.* the note on Apr. 6, 1842.

204. Parker had suggested these reviews in his letter of Apr. 7, 1842. On May 16 he wrote, in reply to the present letter, that the article on Pierpont was ready but that Strauss would require more study and would have to go over till October. Parker's "Hollis Street Council," a review of the proceedings of an ecclesiastical council in the case of the Hollis Street Church and the Rev. John Pierpont, which were published at Boston in 1841, was printed in *The Dial* for Oct., 1842. For both Pierpont and Strauss, see July 17, 1842.

felt in the mind of each parishioner as the highest reason for displacing a pastor. Yet I know nothing of your point of view. If you write on that matter, it shall not be a long piece, and you shall add a whole sheaf of "Literary Notices." Hedge promises good aid, yet has not defined his work for this number. And many of my elements — too many — are still in aqueous or gaseous solution, & not yet precipitated. But precipitate Time will not wait; so fail you me not, but send me something good, good for America, for London, for Paris, for Berlin, so far we hope to fly. I am especially desirous of any details of 'Literary Intelligence' and wish we might give a short chapter of good news to all reasonable beings in every number.

Yours,

R. W. Emerson

Theodore Parker.

## To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, May 22? 1842 [205]

Concord, Sunday Eve, 21 May.

My wife says she shall send herewith some papers, tokens of a sad & tender past [206] — wo is me that I can leave such things behind. We are glad that a poet is found who will value with us those precious ashes and give a green leaf & a breath of music to a darling of Nature. — O yes, you shall send me Dolon.[207] I shall prize it & every rich word of the Imagination spoken in solitude & long unintelligible except to hermits. Do not fail to send it, without question as to printing. Perhaps I will never print it: but I wish to read. Yet send it fit for print, if you can. Still more gladly I would see the riper study & prayer of Edith [208] & her

205. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Newcomb at Brook Farm. It is clear from evidence cited below that the year was 1842; and as it is not at all probable that Emerson mistook Saturday for Sunday, the day was almost certainly May 22.

206. Apparently the letters to or from Lidian Emerson mentioned below, about Waldo. Presumably these were written during his lifetime. Emerson wrote on June 20, 1842, shortly after Newcomb had visited Concord, of the pleasure Newcomb's interest in tales of Waldo had given the boy's mother. In a letter dated June 21, 1842, Newcomb recalled Lidian Emerson's promise to send him some letters written about or after the time of Waldo's death.

207. Mentioned in several earlier letters; acknowledged in June 8, 1842; partly published in *The Dial* for July, 1842. The second of "The Two Dolons" was apparently left uncompleted and was certainly not printed in *The Dial* (*cf.* Aug. 16 following).

208. Apparently a story by Newcomb. See July 19, 1842.

train. Send any thing for me to Miss Peabody,[209] & I will read in cathedrals of living oaks & pines. I am so glad you are to get well again, which is a great duty & by you much neglected, as I hear, that I think you might feel my satisfaction — through the air or underground. My Wife sends her love to you: Elizabeth is not in Concord, but will soon be.

Yours affectionately,

R. W. E.

My wife tells me that she took pen to indicate all the Omissible Matter in her letters, but company came, & they must go as they were. She is sorry to have to leave you to pick your way through so much.

## To William Emerson, Concord, May 29, 1842 [210]

Concord, 29 May, 1842

Dear William,

I safely received your letter & pacquet containing my Lecture.[211] I had forgotten that you had two or should have asked for both though I have no present need for the one you have. I am busy & incessant as the famous fowl with one chicken, with clucking & caring for the little Dial, which should be ready on the 1 July.[212] I fancy I have very good things for it, which perhaps you & the public will not think good.

But my errand now is to say that Bulkeley's two last bills which I paid in April amounted to $84.87 that is, to 1 Jan 42.23 & to 1 Apr. 42.64

Another will be due 1 July. If it should be convenient to you to pay one half this sum, namely 42.43, now or soon, it would be convenient to me. Moreover if it should happen to be in your power to pay the whole of the July bill, when it shall be due, and let me pay the whole of the October one, that will suit me much better still; for now I have no money, & in October, I hope to have much. But if the times are as bad with you as with Boston merchants, then I will not press at all this last request, & will give you your own time for the sum already paid by me, & which you asked me to send you account of. I doubt not but the good Concord Bank which has lent me money, will lend me more.

We are pretty well, though my little darling Edith will cough when

209. Publisher of *The Dial* from Jan., 1842, to Apr. 1843.

210. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

211. See a note on May 8, 1842.

212. The number for July, 1842, was advertised for sale in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of July 2.

she should not. We had a little tragedy here last week: an Irish woman with a babe of seven weeks, came to live with us as cook, on Monday; her babe seemed very ill from want of early attention, and though Lidian & indeed the whole house, chiefly Louisa, gave it all care & watching, it died on Saturday, & the mother fearing the soul too should else be lost, insisted on hurrying the little body into a band-box, & going in the afternoon coach to Boston that she might find a priest & Catholic burial. She was a very fond mother her tears streamed fast from day to day & enlisted the whole house in her cause. Miss Minott laid out the little one, & Lidian put violets, lily of the valley, & sweet briar, in the waxen hand. The mother kissed the dead baby & said, " Can't you say, Thank ye ma'am, you little dear! "

John Ladd is here today, a visiter from Waltham. Mr Ogden Haggerty [213] has sent me through S. G. Ward a beautiful print of Correggio's Madonna del San Francesco, all gaily framed, — the magnificent man.

Mother is well & had a good visit in Boston. Lidian & she send with me best wishes to Susan & her thriving three. Farewell.

Waldo.

Mother remarks that Elizabeth Joy makes a point of inquiring diligently concerning you. Perhaps she may soon come to visit us for a day.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, May 29 and 31 and June 3, 1842 [214]

Concord, 29 May, 1842

Dear Margaret,

I should have written to you some days ago but I had taken no exact intelligence of the length of your Canton visit and would not address you in New England at large; but Charles N.[215] affirms you are still at the selfsame Lethe & bed of Asphodel. Sweet & peaceful may they be! I wish indeed that no funeral bell should have been heard by you there; and that this fine young girl so sane & spirited, could have remained with her sisters & E. H.[216] & you. But in this heap of wonders

213. *Cf.* Mar. 3, 1842. Haggerty was a resident of New York (*Longworth's American Almanac*, 1842).

214. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This letter, addressed to Margaret Fuller at Canton, Mass., bears a Concord postmark dated June 3.

215. Newcomb.

216. Elizabeth Hoar, no doubt.

which we call 'this world,' some must be black, and it needs that we should be agitated as well as soothed & entranced. I have not any very noticeable facts to report to you. Yet I have seen W H Channing lately more nearly & agreeably than before, & had a good letter from him,[217] in which he charges me with universal homicide, nothing less. According to me there is no human race. — They told me in Boston that his speech at the Berry St Conference [218] was of a noble & affecting eloquence. Then I have a letter, unique in its kind, from mine & your Louise of Augusta,[219] Maine. Then I have a Madonna of Correggio, a print, which Ward's friend Haggerty [220] has sent me. Then for doing, I have the Dial. Thou hast heard of the famous fowl with one chicken; So cluck, so brood, so bluster I, but my doings & sufferings are too ridiculous & wearisome to be inflicted on you.

31 And here it seems my page came to a full stop and the great shower of yesterday has washed away all remembrance of that which I should have said. . . .[221] 3 June. Another pause but the motley many dated sheet shall fill up. Here has come Caroline [222] last night and we have had a pretty good hour or two of talk, and she shall make me happy for a week. One thing fell out in the conversation that was noticeable. I had begged her to send me her last summer's poetry. When it came I had selected one piece as the best and in a fine tone, how varied from the strong montone of her melodies. When I told her last night how good it was, she said, it was yours. — It is marked *October* & is the return to the city from the Mill.[223] Well, yours or hers, its doo[m] is fixed — It must to the Dial; I have half a quire of verses destined to the same port. I have been reading Wordsworths new poems,[224] which are valuable to me for they are poems and most that pretend to be, are

217. Probably in reply to one from Emerson, for Theodore Parker, May 16, 1842, advised an appeal for a paper William H. Channing had offered to write for *The Dial*. Mention, in July 17, 1842, of a letter from Channing in June also makes it probable that Emerson wrote at least once or twice to him about this time; but I have no further evidence.

218. Of May 25 (*Christian Register*, May 28, 1842).

219. Several letters from Louise Weston, the first dated Augusta, Me., May 11, 1842, are, I believe, not now extant. There were certainly some letters in reply, but I have seen none of them.

220. See May 29, 1842.

221. I have omitted here four MS lines about the illness of a relative of Emerson's.

222. Sturgis.

223. Doubtless the poem printed in Margaret Fuller's *Life Without and Life Within*, n.d. (c. 1859), pp. 420–421, as "Lines Written in Boston on a Beautiful Autumnal Day."

224. See July 19, 1842.

not. I have read Dr Waagen [225] with much pleasure, and a fine Lecture in the Lond. Atheneum for April by W. Severn, on Fresco painting,[226] very instructive to me. My chapter on the Poet [227] grows very slowly; it is like the Concord River, — one may sometimes suspect it moves backward. When you write, & please the Muses it shall be soon, tell me when you will come here for if you wait long my museum of manuscripts saved for your eye will be lost, my gallery of biography all faded, and I myself perhaps a shadow — E. H will be at home next week. I depend on the speedy arrival of the " Entertainments,[228] and am your friend Waldo.

### To Elizabeth Hoar, Concord, June 2, 1842 [229]

Concord, June 2, 1842.

Dear Elizabeth,

I trouble you with the care of the enclosed letter. . . .[230] Mrs Brown is expected to arrive in Boston at Mrs Bliss's boarding house in Somerset Street No 19 and after staying there a couple of days, to come to Concord. But I do not wish that she should come here, as she will probably stay a week or two at our house, until after Caroline Sturgis has come & gone So Lidian has written this letter to ask her to stay in town a few days longer in case she comes thither today or tomorrow. If she should receive Lidian's letters in Plymouth before she sets out on her journey, she will not begin it so soon. Will you either make Mrs Bliss's house in the way of your walk tomorrow, or send, & if Mrs B. has not arrived keep the letter or destroy it.

Now another message for your charity again to your brothers & sisters. When I was last in Boston Mrs A. Adams had a young woman in her chamber who wanted a place as domestic — she had lived with Mrs Thomas of Kingston: Mrs A. inquired if we wanted her. I told her, No:

225. On May 26 of this year Emerson had borrowed an English translation of Gustav Friedrich Waage's *Kunstwerke und Künstler in England* from the Athenæum (Wilford O. Cross, *Ralph Waldo Emerson's Reading in the Boston Athenaeum*, 1930, p. xxi, typescript volume in CUL).

226. The article " On Fresco-painting " (*The Athenæum*, Apr. 9, 1842) is actually by Joseph Severn, earlier the friend of Keats.

227. *Cf.* Apr. 10, 1842.

228. Mentioned in Apr. 10 and in May 9, 1842. " Entertainments of the Past Winter " duly appeared in *The Dial* for July, 1842.

229. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Elizabeth Hoar in care of Dr. John Randall in Boston.

230. I have omitted a line and a half of the MS which relate to the illness of a relative mentioned in a note on the letter of May 29 and 31 and June 3, 1842.

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for Lidian was just provided with two. Last Saturday her new cook returned to Boston, suddenly, on the death of her infant. Will you now please to ask Mrs A. whether that girl can be had as a cook; whether she is a right good girl; and any information more; but Lidian will not ask you to engage her. She wants the facts only. Then lastly will you please to write these facts to us your brother & sister. And now, it is true, I have yet written you no letter in reply to the good words welcome as south west winds which Queenie brought me from Boston after her last visit. Is it not the law of the World that in proportion always to the height & generosity of our thinking & doing, shall be the want of immediate return, shall be the certainty & universality of the final acknowledgment. So you Angels who live to raise & hallow us by your love must expect no deeds from us, but growing love & thankful prayers.

W.

*But do not fail to come home whilst Caroline is here.*

## To Elizabeth Hoar, Concord, June 5, 1842 [231]

Concord, Sunday Eve, June 5 — 1842

Dear Elizabeth,

Lidian rejoices in your good intelligence of Catherine Sweeney [232] & now entreats that you or Abby Adams according to your mutual convenience, will carry the enclosed note to Miss Holland's Intelligence Office, under the Marlboro Hotel,[233] and let her read the same in your presence; & if she has not engaged any one, that you should forthwith perfect your good deed by engaging Catherine S. & sending her out. We shall pay her stage fare to Concord. — Lidian adds that if Miss Holland should have engaged for her a chambermaid & not a cook she may still want Catherine for cook. She will herself be in town this week one day & will then see her — i.e. in this last contingency. With special thanks for this last grace & perpetual thanks for your being in the world I am & Lidian is yours

Waldo.

Caroline [234] threatens to go home tomorrow.

231. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

232. *Cf.* June 2, 1842.

233. *Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1841, listed Mary Ann Holland's "office of direction" at Chapel Place.

234. *Cf.* letters of June 2 and 9, 1842, for Caroline Sturgis's visit to Concord.

## To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, June 8, 1842 [235]

Concord, 8 June, 1842 —

My dear Charles,

All thanks for Dolon,[236] which I found on my return already arrived, which I have not only read but studied through, & which gives me the most joy I have felt for many a day, for it is full of genius. Of course I have abundance of objections or scruples larger or smaller, some doubts concerning the meaning of passages, doubts concerning the presentableness of certain things, and altogether a greater amount of commentary to offer you than the text makes. What to do? I must print it, for now first the Dial seems to me printworthy, when such things come to me. I cannot communicate with you across seventeen miles of woods & cornfields I see no way but that you should anticipate a little our covenant, & that you should come here immediately to confer with me on this paper — copy it, or parts of it; — and do not fail to bring with you the old MS. if you have it by you, for I wish to speak to you of the two ways of ending the tale. Can you not do this without delay? I am even better pleased with it than with the former plan for now not I, but the Muse, & over the Muse, Necessity, invite. We have the quietest chamber for you, & you shall not speak or be spoken to but at your pleasure, and we have woods as silent & religious as your own. Also you may go away at your first impatience. . . .[237] If you have C. S.'s [238] illustrations of Dolon, I beg you to bring them. The Concord coach leaves the Earl Tavern, Hanover St. every day at 6 A. M. and at 4 P. M. and on Tuesdays Thursdays & Saturdays at 10 A. M. I shall expect you in every coach till you come. R. W. E.

I open my letter to remind you to put in your portfolio Romeo & Juliet, Fanny Ellsler [239] and whatever else you are inclined to read to me.

235. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL.

236. Newcomb, West Roxbury, June 5, 1842: "Enclosed is Dolon." Newcomb added that he could not believe Emerson would publish the piece after reading it but that if it should be acceptable it would probably be better to allow time for a revised copy and let publication go till October.

237. The points stand thus in the original MS.

238. Probably Caroline Sturgis's.

239. Perhaps the *Memoir of Fanny Elssler,* New York, 1840. For Emerson's earlier interest in the dancer, see Oct. 17, 1841.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, June 9, 1842 [240]

Concord, 9 June, 1842 –

Dear Margaret,

Wonderful sleepless working loving child, with such aspiration! and with all this doubt & selfreproach! Whether to admire or chide or soothe you? I can no less than do all at once, if there existed any word of such a wondrous mixture of meaning. Failing the word or the skill to find it I must enumerate my emotions in detail. First I thankfully acknowledge the wise & ample chapter you have sent me for the Journal,[241] which operates for me first a great relief by giving me a breathing space, time to consider & prepare things, whilst they are printing this; then calms me with the sense of so much possession, for it is a fine *manly* (that is the word that fits the thing) deliberate criticism on the men & the things before us, so flowing too & so readable. .[242] that I am glad & proud of my friend. Then you say you will send me 50 or 60 pages on Romaic poems for October![243] I am afraid for your health & life. I will not be the axe to cut down the sandaltree which sheds so profusely its perfume on the woodcutter. I hoped you were going to sleep – to sleep a solid month or trimester, and then wake newborn; but now you shall be harried, like the mesmerised, with more work in your night than in your day. Well, I want the article. but I had rather continue to want it, than that you should thus overstrain yourself always. – In respect to the new piece I have sent it to the printer with instruction to get the first proof to you at Dr Randalls[244] on Saturday, if possible, & that you will give directions when you return it, where the remainder shall go. – I beseech you not to think me so irritable & shallow as to fall out with my rich versatile friend at every word or note that is not written in *my* mood. Interpret my largeness by your own, my long suffering & generous friend. Yet that is a compliment too costly to be paid. I believe that we do not believe in any body's heart but our own. Well I am yet glad of the doubts & tenderness which gave occasion to the two letters. I often suppose myself quite incompetent to

240. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is in *Early Letters of George Wm. Curtis*, ed. Cooke, 1898, pp. 24–25. The letter, not sent by mail, is directed simply to "Miss Margaret Fuller." It is apparently an answer to two letters of hers which I have not seen.

241. Doubtless the "Entertainments" mentioned in earlier letters.

242. The points stand thus in the MS.

243. Margaret Fuller's "Romaic and Rhine Ballads" appeared in *The Dial* of the following October.

244. *Cf.* a note on June 2, 1842.

do you any justice in these years & think I shall in some hour of power roll up all your letters in cloth of asbestos & shooting across this lunar & solar sphere alight on the star of Lyra or the shoulder of Orion and there in some grotto of light meditate your genius until I have computed its orbit & parallax, its influence, its friend & its enemy. In the meantime [1]I wish you to know that I have Dolon in black & white, & that I account Charles K a true genius: his writing fills me with joy, so simple so subtle & so strong is it. There are sentences in Dolon worth the printing the Dial that they may go forth.[1] Caroline came & staid four days [245] & was tormented with ennui — We exerted ourselves honestly for her amusement, but nothing was of any use but the legs of horses. a remedy never to be applied but in extreme cases.

I shall have more to say presently as indeed I thought I needed a quire of paper when I begun my letter but the presence of very unexpected company in my very writing apartment conceals from me everything else but that I am the dear valuer of your genius & virtues, & wish to know when you shall be in Cambridge, for you must come hither & I will fetch you if I can.

Waldo

## To Elizabeth Palmer Peabody, Concord, June 9, 1842 [246]

Concord. 9 June. 1842 —

x x x x thanks again for the frank statement concerning my ineffability. But can I help it? Ask me a question. If it is a question to me, I shall answer fast enough; if it is not for me, my stupidity announces that. I suppose, there always is in society some one Answerer to each question that arises — but none who can answer all: each has his way of answering all questions, but not all questioners; Only one, or those of one spirit. This matter of Christianity, for instance, is so managed in almost all conversations, as instantly to paganize me. — it is so here in Bronson's [247] pamphlet, at which I looked yesterday in obedience to your letter. With such questions I find myself unrelated. They are for

245. *Cf.* the letters of June 2 and 5, 1842.

246. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is an incomplete copy, not in Emerson's hand. The copyist indicates the person addressed. Another copy, in Cabot's hand (also owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL), contains only parts of what I print.

247. Cabot's MS copy has the correct spelling, which Emerson doubtless used. The pamphlet alluded to was probably Brownson's *The Mediatorial Life of Jesus. A Letter to Rev. William Ellery Channing, D. D.*, 1842, which Emerson himself reviewed in *The Dial* for the following October.

those whom they concern. It is all positive, local, idolatrous. But that is the whole criticism I have to make & that should be sufficient one would think; namely to inform the writer that one man finds himself left out. What is his theory good for then?

### To ————————, Concord, June 15, 1842

[Printed incompletely in *Memoirs of Members of the Social Circle,* 2d series, 2d part, p. 256 (same page in *Emerson in Concord*).]

### To John Sullivan Dwight, Concord, June 17, 1842

[MS listed and partly quoted in C. F. Libbie & Co., Dec. 4 and 5, 1902, where only the last name of Dwight is given; Emerson returns some lectures on music, which have given him much pleasure " with the drawback that I read them as a mute reads of eloquence."]

### To Mary Moody Emerson, Concord, June 20 and 22, 1842 [248]

Concord, June 20, 1842.

Dear Aunt,

I believe that when I wrote last to you I made some half promise to write soon again [249] — I have had my books [250] safely here since, & some scrap of a letter; but I have no right to complain. Yet the lover of nature & the great heart & subtle mind — who has so woven her presence into the best threads & texture of my life cannot be forgotten; — of her the wandering clouds & stable sky testify, moon & stars, & each cipher of the great flowing Alphabet she loved & studied. But just now I have been unusually reminded of your peculiar tastes & vein of thinking by the visit here of a youth whom I think of the very highest promise, who read me yesterday largely from his journal, his bold and acute criticism on his readings in literature — swift comparing glances, now Shakspeare now Dante, Milton, Homer, Æschylus, Landor, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Scott, and with such a true interest in his book as if each author treated somewhat in which he had a personal stake, so wholly himself in his criticism and apart from all relation to any public large or small and so naïve & colloquial yet poetic in his expression & illustra-

248. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The letter is addressed to Mary Moody Emerson at South Waterford, Me., and postmarked Concord, June 22.

249. This may indicate a letter to her later than that of Jan. 28, 1842.

250. *Cf.* Sept. 21, 1841, to Mary Moody Emerson.

tion that E. H. agreed with me in observing the ready resemblance. His name is Newcomb, & he has written for the Dial of July a strange beautiful story called Dolon. I hope it will come to you in better season than some of its predecessors. But how strange that this light spirit of life & reality can so seldom survive the printers types. the finest genius we own with thankfulness & exhilaration; the gods are come inder[251] the roofs of sinful men; all things shall now be new, for here is the unconventional & alive — a power to turn selfmoved every way, & go everywhither; — Instantly to a printer with these young energetic words, & let them run over the globe. Our scribe sits down to write for the leaden types, but the lead is contagious & gets into his fingers & brain, and we get a cold cramp conventional composition.

22 But here has come your welcome letter to hasten mine, and I turn gladly aside from a sad pile of Dial papers just going off to the printer to say, Thanks for your remembrance. But please observe that in the Transcendental Lecture,[252] I only write biographically, — describing a class of young persons whom I have seen — I hope it is not confession and that, past all hope, I am confounded with my compassionated heroes & heroines. I will carry your message to Elizabeth straightway — She is well, so is Lidian & Mamma; and this Edith babe — if it were worth while to hope again on porcelain cups — is as full of innocence & nobleness as babe can be. Even the babes teach us that there was never a man the human form was never seen never in its majesty never in its loveliness, — hints & suggestions only from this & that more successful follower of the right but in every babe there is a promise which no adult has fulfilled. We cannot spare be sure the holy saint who has prayed nor the bard who has rhymed well nor the sufferer who has endured, nor the champion who has achieved well but it were an impiety — were it not — to the stainless irrefragable Whole we carry always with us, to allow a Model in the best of these Fragments. I entreat you to let me hear from you again & again this summer as eyes & health permit, from Thomaston or the Vale. I hope you shall be well as the Angels are well. I intended long since to have told you what perhaps you know, that your pet Eliza Woodward is very well & happily betrothed to a Mr Hudson,

251. Misspellings, not infrequent in the letters, are usually due, pretty obviously, merely to haste; but this one can be explained only as the result of a sudden change of heart. Presumably Emerson began to write "into," but recasting his thought, made a tardy and ineffectual attempt to substitute "under."

252. Perhaps Emerson had sent his aunt the MS of "The Transcendentalist," not published in *The Dial* till Jan., 1843.

quite a superior young man – a merchant of New York.[253] Lidian has had a letter half written to you for weeks & weeks on her table. Shall I ask her what message? Your loving nephew

Waldo –

She says, she should have finished the letter long ago but that it is to *you;* therefore she shall wait for the Spirit. Mother thanks you for your kind word, & desires her love to go.

## To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, June 20, 1842[254]

Concord, 20 June 1842

My dear Charles,

I was so foolish good natured seeing how intractable you were as to say that I would make no correction in printing the MS.[255] without your leave: so now I must write a letter about the veriest trifles.

1. There is no period in the first page of your MS until the end of the last line; if, as I suppose then it all refers to our ' sea fairy ' it ought to be indicated by putting " in " before " the gurgle-reserved." Then it will read [as if it sought it by roaming; – in the g.* r. &c]

2. On p. 11 the sentence now reads. [the thing which is beautiful acts as a thing upon the child, & Being answers Being than looks at each other & feels each other as what they internally are.] which I interpret by the context to mean [Being answers Being rather than looks at each other, & each feels the other as what they internally are.] If it means this, shall I write it so? if it does not, – make it correct your own way, & send it me.

3. You *forgot* to correct " outerly "

4. You did not correct " un-state relations Does Apollo cherish his warts? Must the Muse babble? Can she not articulate being fully grown?

Please, dear Charles, sit down & write me a line on these matters ere

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* I cannot write that sad sad word again

253. In the list of intentions of marriage in *Concord . . . Births, Marriages, and Deaths,* p. 394, Frederick Hudson of New York and Eliza Woodward of Concord appear under date of Jan. 13, 1844.

254. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL.

255. Of " The Two Dolons," frequently mentioned in letters of the early months of 1842 and partly printed in *The Dial* for July of that year. The present letter is an interesting sidelight on Emerson's forced concern with petty editorial matters, as well as on Newcomb's style.

the return of the mail. The second is the most indispensable correction, the third the least so. If you will write so quickly, I will alter them in the proofs. E. H.[256] has given me a fair copy of the whole which I send, I think, this morn[g] to the printer. Or lastly, if I hear nothing from you I shall correct the *first* & *second,* as I have indicated, & let the two others stand.

I hope the seventeenth proved sufficiently gay & rich at Charlestown to feed the imagination.[257] My wife was made happy by finding so friendly and eager an ear for her anecdotes of her sweet Boy. Henry T. finds that he has always known your face. & E H. wishes more MSS to copy. So that you are secure of a superfluity of love in this quarter, if such could be.

Your friend,

R. W. E.

## To William Emerson, Concord, June 26, 1842[258]

Concord June 26 1842

Dear William,

I received many many days ago your letter by Mr Thoreau[259] & its enclosure. Mr Ralph Haskins did not credit you in my a/c with that sum of $11.00 of which you speak & of which I remember to have heard when I was in N. Y. I will bring it to his memory. I sent the order on Watts & Co to Mr Adams who replied at first that they had yet received nothing Two days ago he wrote me that they had paid its amount $73. is it not? (for it is late at night & the letters are elsewhere.) For your kind & prompt compliance with my requests, all thanks.

I now learn on my return Sat night[260] from Cambridge that Mr

256. Elizabeth Hoar.

257. According to the *Daily Evening Transcript* of June 17, 1842, the Bunker Hill anniversary was ushered in by the firing of the national salute from a cannon which had been raised by steam power to the top of the Monument, and there was a military parade.

258. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The date may be correct, and is certainly approximately so, in spite of the reference to Saturday night as if it were the time of writing — a meaning probably not intended — and the misinformation about Hawthorne's wedding day. The letter is postmarked New York, June 28, and William Emerson's endorsement shows it was received June 29 and answered on the 30th.

259. William Emerson, May 29 and June 7 and 8, 1842 (owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), was, according to its superscription, sent by "J. Thoreau, Esq.," doubtless John Thoreau, father of Henry. The lecture "Prospects" was returned with this letter.

260. June 25.

Hoar has met Susan in a boat on her way to Portsmouth. Very glad are we all to learn that both she & you are so near our road & door when we least expected it for Mother had steadily settled it that we should not see you this summer. Now the cake is baked & the chamber is readied & all hands & all hearts are open for your reception this week,[261] as we understand it. Do not baulk us by any imaginary difficulties of Concord roads. Very good road I assure you and I should know who traverse it so often. Elizabeth is at home & depends on you, with us. Mr Hoar gives a very good account of the babies he saw. I go to Boston & Cambridge tomorrow morn, to end the Dial, which has hung round my neck well, lately, and then shall be as free as Puck or Oberon,[262] for a week at least. Tomorrow should be Mr Hawthorn's wedding day [263] & he should bring his bride to the Manse here, which is all new & bright again as a toy. Mother & Lidian are very well & Edith is a right noble babe & makes up for all little Nelly's trials of papa's patience. Poor little affectionate Ellen. She is in a false position as the books say, without a companion. Babes need babes to quiet each other & keep them from tormenting the Universe and she has lost as much as we in her irreparable Brother.

Yours affectionately
Waldo.

## To Theodore Parker, Concord, June 30, 1842 [264]

Concord, 30 June, 1842.

My dear Sir,

The Dial no IX [265] will come to you, I suppose, tomorrow, but without the two notices of Books which you kindly & seasonably furnished for it. This omission is a matter of mortification to me, & happened thus. All my early *copy* fell short, in the printing, of my estimate. So that in my later despatches of copy — much hurried at the last, & the correction confided to other persons in one or two instances,

261. *Cf.* July 8, 1842, which shows that William's wife had earlier been expected on Saturday, July 2, though she did not come at that time. This would indicate that Emerson was writing in the present letter not earlier than Sunday, June 26.

262. Emerson was doubtless thinking of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* or, possibly, had Ariel of *The Tempest* vaguely in mind; probably he was quite unaware that Hawthorne had ever used the pen name "Oberon."

263. Hawthorne was married July 9 (*Boston Daily Advertiser*, July 11, 1842; and Julian Hawthorne, I, 242).

264. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

265. Of July, 1842; for the date of publication, *cf.* a note on May 29, 1842.

I sent so much matter that it overran by 10 pages in print my own estimate; so that when I went to Cambridge with my Record of the Months including your Notices; & my " Intelligence " I found myself compelled to omit a large portion. I should have omitted Notices by myself or by Margaret Fuller as she had already written a long article, but both of us had only noticed books which had been given to the Dial most of them 4 or 6 months ago & notices were promised. So I was constrained to roll them up & bring them home for another day.

You must not let my clumsiness in this my first attempt as Editor, cool your zeal for the Dial, but must send us what you best can, & what you can best, for October. William Channing has promised me *then* a Review of your Book.[266] Yours, R. Waldo Emerson.

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, July 1, 1842

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

### To Solomon Corner, Concord, July 3, 1842

[MS owned by the Rev. Willard Reed, who has both printed it and reproduced it in facsimile in *A Letter of Emerson*, 1934, pp. 9–12 and 17–19. The MS copy owned by RWEMA (ph. in CUL) was sent to Edward Waldo Emerson in a letter dated Baltimore, Dec. 5, 1892, and was there described as made from the original then in the possession of the Rev. Charles R. Weld. For Emerson's later meeting with Solomon Corner in Baltimore, see letters of Jan. 8 and 9 and Jan. 19, 1843, to Lidian Emerson. *Matchett's Baltimore Director* of June, 1842, lists Corner as a member of the firm of Keller & Corner, flour merchants.]

### To Abby Adams, Concord, July 8, 1842 [267]

Concord 8 July 1842

My dear friend,

We expected Mrs W. Emerson last Saturday night, on account of a letter from her, but later we had a letter from William that they could not then come. They came hither on Tuesday and have

266. Parker's *A Discourse of Matters Pertaining to Religion* had been announced in the *Daily Evening Transcript* of May 18, 1842, as just published. For the uncertain prospect of an article from William Henry Channing, see a note on the letter of May 29 and 31 and June 3, 1842; and *cf.* the letters of July 17 and Sept. 8, 1842, to Parker. But neither a review of this book nor any other article by him seems to have appeared in *The Dial* from this time forward.

267. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to " Mrs Adams," whose first name is mentioned in the will of her husband, Abel Adams (*cf.* a note, Sept. 22, 1867).

made us all very good uncles & aunts & fathers & mothers for these two or three days past.[268] Tomorrow they go to Boston & New York. So that if tomorrow afternoon should be pleasant, and you are in good health, I hope you will persuade Mr Adams that Boston can stand a couple of nights without him, & come hither & see my mother, my wife, my babes, my young trees, & your affectionate servant

R. Waldo Emerson

## To Theodore Parker, Concord, July 17, 1842 [269]

Concord, 17 July, 1842.

My dear Sir,

My internal resolution not to meddle with the Dial for the whole month of July, a rule quite indispensable to my purpose of doing something else in the good hours of the hot days, and something that requires coolness, — made me a little negligent of your request for an answer.[270] I took in with both hands your generous offers of aid; now I see that to secure their being made good in their season, I must choose, & tell you my choice. As for Hennell, Channing wrote me in June to offer to review *Parker,* instead of Hennell, which I accepted.[271] Quite lately I have received from a person in London signing himself E. R. Brabant, a translation of a Review of Hennell from the German of Dr

268. Probably July 9, the day of Hawthorne's wedding, was the last day of this visit; and William Emerson recorded, in a letter to Mary Moody Emerson dated July 28, 1842 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), his feelings at seeing strangers temporarily in possession of the Old Manse: ". . . the old Manse, which has undergone some changes . . . was waiting the arrival of new tenants. What a history in those silent walls! . . . In the little attic room, my father's, Edward's, & Charles's handwriting are still plainly to be read on the wall. Some wood & stone seems holier than the rest . . . I am sorry to see the Old house going into stranger's hands."

269. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

270. Parker, July 8, 1842, announced that in a few days he would have his article on Pierpont ready, but that Emerson could omit it if he did not like it: "I am not a *baby* to be vexed with you . . ." He hoped to send an article on Strauss, he said, though his reading faculty had broken down in April. He also had a mind to review Follen's life, a noble theme. He thought somebody should review Griswold's *The Poets and Poetry of America* for *The Dial.* He would send a whole sheaf of notices and intelligence, for he had many new and valuable books and a pile of German reviews. Would W. H. Channing write a notice of Hennell? If not, Parker would. The last number of *The Dial* was, he thought, rich, but it contained three articles with too much "*Dialese.*" Would Emerson please reply about the article on Pierpont?

271. This seems to show that there was probably at least a letter or two to W. H. Channing about this time. *Cf.* a note on the letter of May 29 and 31 and June 3, 1842.

Schnitzer in the Allgemeine Lit. Zeitung of May 1840.[272] Of course, we should be glad to be hospitable to so frank & honourable a guest, but although I have tried twice to read the paper, twice I have broke down. It is pretty long, — 57 quarter letter sheet pages and I fear our readers would find it long, if it were one half shorter. So I think to return it to the translator (I will first broach it once more), and if you will send me a notice of the same book, I will state that fact to Mr Brabant.

For Mr Pierpont, I agree to a short notice,[273] for the man has merits, but, as I wrote to you in a letter which was lost, I think the people almost always right in their quarrels with their ministers, although they seldom know how to give the true reason of their discontent.[274] — Dr Follen was a brave erect man, of a singularly barren & uninteresting intellect, who always baulked any inquiry for an opinion or for a spiritual fact, by a quotation. He vexed & surprised me by his ignorance of all that I wished to know of his country & his countrymen. But his self-respect commanded respect, & I can well believe that when something was to be chosen or done, he never baulked anybody. I read lately his excellent letter to the Editor of the Daily Advertiser respecting Miss Martineau.[275] If you have something at heart to say of him,[276] or of Strauss, or intelligence of learned Germany, I pray you to send it as soon as you can — I think we shall not begin to print before 1 September. I am afraid I can guess your three objectionable papers in the last number, & am glad if they are only so many. But the maddest piece in the number, odious as its license of composition is to me, is yet on some accounts to me the best & most valued — I mean "Dolon."

Yours R. W. Emerson.

### To Horace Greeley, Concord? July *c.* 18? 1842

[Greeley, New York, July 20, 1842, acknowledges "your extract from Sterling's letter." Greeley says he wishes to go on with his own project for an American edition of Sterling's prose, alludes to Emerson's considerable audiences in New

272. "C. C. Hennell's Untersuchung über den Ursprung des Christenthums. Aus dem Englischen. Eingeführt von Dr. Dav. Fr. Strauss. 1840" (*Allgemeine Literatur-Zeitung*, II, 2–22, May, 1840). This article is signed simply "Schnitzer." Parker's "Hennell on the Origin of Christianity" appeared in *The Dial* for Oct., 1843.

273. See a note on May 11, 1842.

274. *Cf.* May 11, 1842, which may be the letter Emerson supposed lost.

275. Emerson may have read this in *The Works of Charles Follen*, Boston, 1841, I, 380–381.

276. Parker's "The Life and Character of Dr. Follen" was printed in *The Dial* for Jan., 1843.

York, and asserts that the reprinting of a lecture in his own weekly cannot hinder the sale of *The Dial*. Probably Emerson wrote Greeley again on these subjects.]

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, July 19, 1842 [277]

Concord, 19 July, 1842.

Dear Margaret

Before I had time to rejoice that your friendly orb was on its return to this part of the heavens, it has encountered perturbing

277. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. It is not clear whether Emerson wrote to Margaret Fuller in June or early July a letter which is now lost, but the statement that he would have written two or three times had he known where to send makes such a letter improbable. He had, at any rate, received the following one from her:

"New Bedford,

"23d June, 1842.

"Dear Waldo, I feel like writing to you, yet cannot perceive that there is much of a letter lying in my mind. It does not agree with my humor just now to be going about and seeing so many people, & I dont thrive under it. It is not Aunt Mary's fault, that I do not exactly as I please, for she is a nonpareil of a hostess in her combination of quiet, courteous attention to the comfort of her guest, with the desire to let alone, whenever it is best. But the visits of others dissipate my thoughts, and there are no beautiful walks, no places where I can go and feel as I did in the real country. I stay in my room some hours each day, but little comes of it. I have had good talks with Aunt Mary; her range of experiences is not familiar to me, but where we meet we meet truly. She says, though, that, in comparing her life with others, she finds the guide of hers has been a restraining not an impelling power. She has known peace and assurance, but not energy, not rapture. She is unacquainted with the passions and with genius. She is strong and simple, a vestal mind, transmitting the oracle in purity, but not the parent of new born angels.

"I have seen all the others here, but you know them well enough. I go to Providence on Saturday. Beyond that my future is yet in nubibus, but I shall write again.

"I finished correcting my proof while in Boston. The little notices do you take charge of, if you will, & make any corrections you see fit. I think with pleasure of the coming out of this Dial. I, too, shall find something fresh in it, this time, and not have the thoughts of my friends indissolubly associated, with proof-reading, post-office, or printer's ink. I do not even know what you have written there. Charles writes me that *this* Dolen is a new one. Did you have a pleasant visit from Charles? In Boston I heard W. Channing preach and saw him, beside; had a good visit from Sam, & made a visit to his house which was pleasant, though in a different way, & looked at my leisure, at many beautiful engravings of John Randall's, which I have never seen before, and hope you *will* see. One of Dominichino I wish I could show you myself. And the Rape of Europa, by a German painter whose name is not familiar to me took my fancy too. The four horses I should like to have you see.

"The new colonists will be with you soon. Your community seems to grow. I think you must take pleasure in Hawthorne when yo[u] know him; you will find him more *mellow* than most fruits at your board, and of distinct flavor too. Now, if you would sell us for some two thousand dollars a house and small farm, & promise that

forces of some Jove or Pallas; or now it seems not the greater Gods but only ministering Oreads & Dryads, sorceresses, have shot their powerful glances at you in some unguarded hour & lured you to their steeps & thickets. Well I do not wonder: the mountain madness, like the sea-mania, reaches its height about the middle of July, and the ridge of the Notch Mountains & of the White Range then acquires in all lowland memories their most sharp dread & desart outline.[278] You must not fail to hear the echoes of Fabyan's fish horn blown on his doorstep[279] — which is as lively a reappearance as Goethes Helena,[280] of all divine hunters & huntresses, Ida, Thessaly, & Thrace; nor to see at Franconia the 'Old Man of the Mountain,' the expression of whose face seemed to me wonderfully harmonious with the landscape; nor to visit "*the Flume*" close by; no matter how many times you have seen these things, it is my duty to them to repeat my admiration to the best pilgrim that may go there for long. Ah promising promising flattering Nature! when to perform so much as is covenanted by a ray from a dewdrop or the night lamp of a firefly? — Well Joy & Genius & better than Nature the breath of the highest Heaven fill you when you wake & when you sleep!

I am glad you have had so rich & varied a spring & summer circuit:

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a frugal subsistence could there be obtained, my mother Ellen and Ellery might live in Concord, too. They might keep there my goods, my pen and paper, and I might find a home there whenever I could pause from winning lucre. And I think we should be better friends, if such an arrangement could take effect, for I should not plague you with my business affairs, we should meet often, and naturally, and part as soon as we had done. I think, too, I should like to live with Ellery a part of the time, & I now feel confidence in him that if he do not win a foothold on this earth, it will not be that he deprives himself of it, by indulgence in childish freaks. A cow we own to give us milk, but would Concord yield brown bread and salt? I fear not. But dont plague yourself to answer these suggestions on paper. When we meet is time enough, indeed, I scarce think fate wills me ever to live in Concord, though I should like it now. Your affectionate

" Margaret.

" I like Aunt Mary's dry humor. Have you ever seen *that* [?] "

278. This letter was addressed to Margaret Fuller at Conway, N. H., but was forwarded to " White Mountain," with a Conway postmark dated July 22. Emerson's enthusiasm for the landscape here recommended is recorded in Sept. 6, 1839.

279. *The White Mountain and Winnepissiogee Lake Guide Book,* 1846, pp. 67–69, describes the Mount Washington House, kept by Horace Fabyan. For Emerson's account of the horn at Fabyan's in 1839, see *Journals,* V, 246. The editors of *Journals* point out a passage in the essay " Nature " which seems to be another echo of the same horn.

280. Probably Emerson was thinking of *Faust,* Part II, Act I, where the phantom of Helena appears and Faust is filled with admiration.

And now last have heard my best poet at Brook Farm: he read to me from 'Edith' [281] copious wonderful pages when he was here, & I who had manifold things to say to him & to show him, straightway held my peace & resigned him to his gods with great thankfulness that they had at last gone to build a Genius of their own. If only he will live & last, we can well wait his own time. "Dolon" be sure, has odious licences, and yet – more native gold than anything we have seen since Sampson Reed's Oration on Genius.[282] I wonder if any country in the geography has so many fine mornings as America "stealing unseen to west with this disgrace." [283] I thought Tennyson [284] as you do, a godsend, although it wants rude truth; the form is too elaborated, the matter not sufficiently vital; yet it gave me a fine hour one rainy afternoon in Boston lately, and all laurels fall on such benefactors! Wordsworth agreeably disappointed me: [285] I had heard it was what his manhood had not permitted him to print which his age now printed. But I begun at the beginning & read that pauper poem with that contentment & quiet applause which we give to conversation of eminent good sense. I said 'these eyes saw these ears heard, this brain thought, therefore I may well listen. What if it is not his best thing, or one of his better

281. *Cf.* the letters of May 22? and Aug. 16, 1842.

282. According to Dr. Pierce, Sampson Reed's oration on genius, for the Master's degree at the commencement of 1821, was ingenious but "so miserably delivered that it was tedious" (*Proc. Mass. Hist. Soc.*, 2d series, V, 188). Emerson heard this oration on the day of his own graduation and many years later recalled that though the audience found it dull and tiresome, he himself was much interested "&, at my request, my brother William of Reed's class, borrowed afterwards the manuscript & I copied the whole of it, & kept it as a treasure" (typescript *Journals* for 1868–1870). There is other evidence that the copy was prized by members of the family (*cf.* a note on July 30? 1830), and indeed it is still preserved; but Emerson's praise of Reed was usually inspired by the Swedenborgian druggist's *Observations on the Growth of the Mind,* published in 1826.

283. Shakespeare's thirty-third sonnet.

284. The *Boston Daily Advertiser* of June 20, 1842, advertised both Wordsworth's new volume and Tennyson's *Poems,* 2 vols., just received by the "Britannia"; and the *Daily Evening Transcript* of July 7 following noticed an American edition of Tennyson published by Wm. D. Ticknor on that day.

285. *Poems, chiefly of Early and Late Years,* London, 1842, contains neither "Peter Bell" nor "The Old Cumberland Beggar." Probably, however, Emerson meant "Guilt and Sorrow," the first poem following the preliminary pages in the new volume. "The Borderers," doubtless "the tragedy" here alluded to, also appeared in this edition. Curiously enough, Emerson's question about the "brave sin" might well serve as a text for much discussion of an important passage in Wordsworth's life which has recently come to light through the studies of Harper and Legouis.

things? We so rarely find proportion and self-equality, that I prize these.' Then the tragedy seemed to give us new tidings of the man Wordsworth, that he had some time seriously queried with himself whether a brave sin might not stimulate his intellect & so pay its way? As if Dr Channing should some morning try his hand at a Chapter for the " Pirate's Own Book." [286] We are all very well here, & will claim your pledge as soon as you return, & establish your desk & inkhorn duly for the Romaic poetry.[287] Had you not better come down the river to Bellows Falls & so to Keene & Concord on your return. If you go to Cambridge, I will go there & fetch you. We have had good accounts of Mr Alcott in London. He found Wright & Lane [288] even better men than he looked for. Wright he thinks his superior in his own art of teaching. Greaves unhappily was just dead; and he had not seen yet Carlyle or Marston or Heraud. But he writes a letter glowing with happiness. I shall doubtless have new accounts by the coming steamer. These letters were to his wife. This morning your brother Richard whose face is a refreshment, set out with H. T. on the road to Wachusett.[289] I am sorry that you, & the world after you, do not like my brave Henry any better. I do not like his piece very well, but I admire this perennial threatening attitude, just as we like to go under an overhanging precipice It is wholly his natural relation & no assumption at all. But I have now seen so many threats incarnated which " delayed to strike " & finally never struck at all, that I begin to think our American subsoil must be lead or chalk or whatever represents in geology the phlegmatic. I should have written you two or three times had I known where to send with certainty, as I gladly & gratefully remember you as a main resource & consolation When the tide ebbs & the stream of life runs low in the mud — Then we say We once have risen to yonder bank of rich flowers & have reflected a heaven of stars. So do not fail to write to me from the mountains, & befriend your friend W.

286. The history of this popular chapbook, compiled by Charles Ellms, a Boston stationer, and first published in 1837, is briefly set forth in *The Pirates Own Book*, Salem, Mass., 1924, pp. vi–viii.

287. *Cf.* June 9, 1842, to Margaret Fuller.

288. Henry G. Wright and Charles Lane presently came to America as Alcott's allies and reappear in many later letters. Greaves, Marston, and Heraud are, like Lane, mentioned in earlier letters. For Alcott in England, see Sanborn and Harris, I, 333 ff.

289. Thoreau tells of this excursion in " A Walk to Wachusett " (*The Writings*, V, 133–152).

## To Mary Russell, Concord? July? 1842

[Mary Russell, July 29, 1842, says that Emerson's letter has been pleasant company on her journey along the Hudson and that she thinks of visiting Concord the following Monday. The letter she refers to may be, I believe, the one partly printed in Cabot, II, 482, and there described as to "a lady who had been Waldo's teacher." Mary Russell, July 31, 1842? (the "2" is slightly doubtful), refers to a visit she has made at Concord, and sends a little letter apparently associated with Waldo, whose charm she recalls.]

## To Amos Bronson Alcott, Concord? *c.* July? 1842

[*Journals*, VII, 179 (May? 1846): "When Alcott wrote from England that he was bringing home Wright and Lane, I wrote him a letter, which I required him to show them, saying, that they might safely trust his theories, but that they should put no trust whatever in his statement of facts." For the probable date, *cf.* the letters of July 19 and Sept. 1, 1842.]

## To John F. Heath, Concord, August 4, 1842 [290]

Concord, 4 August, 1842.

My dear Sir,

I cannot let Wheeler go from me to you without carrying an acknowledgment of the letter you wrote me from London almost a year ago.[291] I was glad of the good defence of travelling it made. & have been interested since to hear once & again from your friends of the good use to which you have put your journeys & your residences. To hear Schelling might well tempt the firmest rooted philosopher from his home, and I confess to more curiosity in respect to his opinions

290. MS owned by Mr. Owen D. Young; ph. in CUL. In the superscription Emerson wrote "James F. Heath," but the first name is apparently an error. According to *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, XXXIX, 651, John Fenwick Heath, of Virginia, was a classmate, at Harvard, of James Elliot Cabot. Cabot went to Heidelberg in 1840 and was joined there by Heath; and the two migrated to the University of Berlin and, later, to Göttingen. In the letter of July 18, 1841, Emerson told of Heath's sailing for Europe. The printed records of Harvard give the name as John Francis Heath.

291. Heath, London, Aug. 29, 1841, assured Emerson that he found travel worth while, and stated that the *Essays*, a copy of which he had carried to Europe, was a revelation to him. The present letter, according to its superscription, was sent in care of "C. Stearns Wheeler." Wheeler is commended to Carlyle in the letter of July 1, 1842. He appears frequently in later letters as a contributor of German literary intelligence to *The Dial*. Some particulars concerning him are to be found in Alexander Ireland's "Two Letters of Emerson," in *The Manchester Guardian*, Dec. 3, 1889.

than to those of any living psychologist. Oken, of whose speculations I have read something, I take to be a scholar first, & then a continuator of Schelling's thought. There is a grandeur in the attempt to unite natural & moral philosophy which makes him a sort of hero. Well you will bring home all his best thoughts, or perhaps, better yet — a result at which he cannot arrive namely the action & reaction which his doctrines awaken in your own mind, — and the general impression which a doctrine makes on us, I think is the test of its truth. If it frees & enlarges, — if it helps me, then it is true; and not otherwise. But you have many more resources & occupations than Schelling & the lecture room; and at Berlin amidst all the brilliant society have doubtless seen the Frau von Arnim, our wonderful Bettine.[292] I have seen two or three travellers who have seen her and who did not much distinguish her in their memories, but we are indebted to her for the most remarkable book ever written by a woman. She is a finer genius than George Sand or Mme de Stael, more real than either, more witty, as profound, & greatly more readable. And where shall we find another woman to compare her with. Then you have the grand Humboldt the Napoleon of travellers an encyclopaedia of science, a man who knows more of nature than any other one in it — What can you tell me of him? It seems to me you are very rich in men to have in one city so large a proportion of the most conspicuous persons in Europe. I heartily congratulate you on your happy position, which must have a rich & happy sequel. You will bring the best home to your countrymen. I shall count it a great kindness if you will make me acquainted with any particulars of your academic life and the course & tendency of your studies, and of the men and the ideas which now attract you. Does the high Platonic Beauty still hover for you in that eastern heaven? Or is it left behind for realities less fair but nearer, and, as it is pretended, more fit for man? I hope & will believe, it still holds its place and will hold it evermore, changing its names, & becoming more distinctly visible, but by drawing man up to itself, not by any descent on its part. We have little American literary news, and the less to write, that Wheeler will tell you more than any letters. I think it an important fact in our literary history that Cambridge should have both of you in the neighborhood of Berlin at so capital a conjuncture as the present, and I entreat you to send us a loaded journal from that great feast of the Muses.

In return, I will gladly send you any good news I can collect for you

292. Many earlier letters testify to Emerson's interest in "Bettina."

from the towns of men or the world of thought. With auspicious hopes for your present & advancing welfare, I am your affectionate servant

R. W. Emerson.

To Elizabeth Palmer Peabody, Concord? August 8, 1842

[Bluebook List.]

To William Emerson, Concord, August 11, 1842 [293]

Concord 11 Aug 1842

Dear William,

I returned home last evening from Boston whither I went to attend the funeral of Aunt Nancy.[294] Mother has been staying with her & Aunts for the last fortnight: And seems to have found much satisfaction in these last offices to her sister. She was certainly a remarkable woman for her happy temper. No eye ever saw her morose or unhappy but she was mixed of such elements as only to be susceptible of agreeable sentiments & sensations, — a narrow round but all pleasureable. With her were no hard times no cares no misfortunes. It is a great felicity & I think many laurels might be well sold for this plain weed with so large a nectary. I received your letter by Mr Loring [295] & will attend to your errand to Dr Bartlett and am glad the little head is sound. Mother has quite recovered from the lameness in her feet. She will probably bring Aunt Betsey home with her to spend a few weeks here for rest. Aunt B. has failed much, Mother says, & all their little household rests on Aunt Fanny. Aunt Fanny spoke with lively interest of your visit & kindness.

I write the more specially on this day to mention to you that Abby Adams who has been for some weeks at Saratoga with a Mr & Mrs Chamberlain of Boston will be in New York on Sunday & Monday probably, & if you are at leisure & so disposed I wish you would call at the Astor House (where I suppose the party will be) & let Abby see your face. She is a good child & lately the more interesting to me that she has a

293. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

294. According to the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Aug. 17, 1842, Ann Haskins, 73, died on the 9th of that month.

295. William Emerson, Aug. 4, 1842 (owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), was, as its superscription indicates, carried by a Loring — perhaps the David Loring of Mar. 5, 1842. The same letter asks that Dr. Bartlett be paid for his services — apparently to one of William's children.

fancy for joining the Catholic Church a thing so shocking to her Aunt & Uncle who are devoted to her & to whom she is also in her way devoted, that it calls out much character & really good behaviour on the part of Abby — She needs some experience, has had none, & I think this new freak, into which a lively forcible girl whom she knows, has led her, will be a most valuable part of her education if it only holds long enough. If she is at leisure to stay in the city any days I think Susan would like to see her at your house very well, for we all value the girl for her truth & a certain superiority yet undeveloped.

When she comes home I mean to bring her here, if she will come, & we will talk, if she likes, of the Pope of Rome. We are all well. Lidian loves & thanks you both for remembering her darling who returns not to her house: and to this day still fears & fears that you were uncomfortable when here from various misadventures in her household affairs. Love to Susan & to the children. I have the map ready to go, this long time, waiting for W^m^ Prichard or other mediator. Waldo.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, August 12, 1842 [296]

Concord, 12 August, 1842.

Dear Margaret,

I am glad to get your long expected letter as I was grieved to learn on my return last eve that our plenipotentiary sister

296. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The letter is addressed to Margaret Fuller in care of Professor Farrar at Cambridge and is in answer to hers written two days before:

" Cambridge
" 10th August, 1842.

" Dear Waldo,

" I have been waiting to write to you till Mr & Mrs Farrar should decide whether to go a journey they had in view. If they had gone, I was to have staid here during their absence for this would have ensured me several weeks of stillness and solitude, so that I could have fixed my mind on writing. But they have given up this journey, & I should like to come to you next week, if you please. Now I want you to be perfectly frank in answering what I shall say. I am tired to death of dissipation; I do not enjoy it, nor find any repose in mere observation now I long to employ myself steadily. I have no inspiration now, but hope it might come, if I were once fixed in some congenial situation. Should you like it should be with you, that I should come and really *live* in your house a month, instead of making a visit, as I should here. Would it entirely suit Lidian's convenience? Do not regard hospitality in your answer for if I am to feel quite happy and at my ease it must be perfectly pleasant for you. I must feel that I shall not be in any one's way. I am always sensitive about encamping on your territories, for I think so many tax your hospitality without mercy. Beside I have put off my visit to suit myself, and it may

failed to see you at Cambridge. Well, now please to come, for this I have always desired that you will make my house in some way useful to your occasions & not a mere hotel for a sleighing or summering party. I admire the conditions of the treaty, that you shall put on sulkiness as a morning gown, & I shall put on sulkiness as a surtout, and speech shall be contraband & the exception not the rule. I say nothing, I think nothing in these days, & shall be glad of so fair a diplomatic veil for dulness. Besides, the immense responsibilities of 1 October already are mounting into my horizon, & will shortly overcloud the sky: and I must work like a beaver, or with sharp scissors, for the strong men fail. me. As to the coming hither, if you will consent this time to the Queensberry Diligence or Concord Fly, why, I, in return, will promise my gig for commencement, or for the road to Concord another day; I have grown slight, dissipated, & disturbable in my habit of study by slight things, so that I am very apt to lose more than the day I give to the ride. I have consulted with the Queen & she can muster no objection to the plot more than this that if a visiter or two who may be expected should come to spend a night you will be disturbed for such night in your possession of the bedroom below & driven upstairs into the prophet's chamber or

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not now suit you. Then, though I feel as if I should like to be with you now, yet as regards convenience, they will give me a room at Brook Farm . . .

"Now, dear friend, be entirely frank, and induce Lidian to be so. I should be with you.

"Whether for the long, or the little stay, I can come any day next week after Tuesday that you will appoint. As to your coming for me, I have bethought me, that you may purpose coming to the Commencement exercises the following week, and may not wish to come so soon before. I should still like to have you, insomuch, as I should enjoy riding with you, and seeing you first so, but unless you have other *errands* to do and would altogether like to come, you must not, because I suggested it, but write, and, if you dont wish it so, I will come in the stage.

"I should be glad to get an answer on Saty if posible. This I meant to send by Ellery who goes today to Concord, but cannot get it to Boston, however, it will reach you almost as soon as he. Ellery wants to try the boarding place, himself, before Ellen comes, and I am glad he is going to do so, beside he is as anxious to get settled as I am, and more impatient. Why is Mrs Thoreau's recommended, rather than Mrs Pritchard's? I thought the latter was much the pleasantest family, and the windows look over the meadows and river. — My love to Elizabeth. Say I wrote to her, but I did not like the letter and put it into my port folio. I shall talk better than I wrote I hope. All other things postponing till we meet yours as ever Margaret."

The passage here omitted, in which Margaret Fuller proposes to go to Brook Farm for a considerable period of work and quiet if Emerson prefers that she make only a brief visit at Concord, is printed in Higginson, *Margaret Fuller Ossoli*, p. 182. Letters of Aug. 22 and Sept. 8, 1842, show that Margaret Fuller was at Concord for some weeks.

Hole in the Wall,[297] a contingency I suppose to which all mortals in this circumnavigable are occasionally exposed by their fellow circumnavigators. Ellery came up with me yesterday P. M. & I comfort myself with the hope that he will find Concord habitable, and we shall have poets & the friends of poets & see the golden bees of Pindus[298] swarming on our plain cottages & apple trees. Mrs Ripley holds a soirée on Phi Beta night[299] which it will behove us all to attend & we will descend in solid column on Waltham plain. Lest my letter should miss this day's mail, I will not delay longer to send Lidian's message of love and expectation of your coming on Wednesday. Yours, Waldo. —

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord? August 15, 1842

[Mentioned in Carlyle, Aug. 29, 1842 (*C–E Corr.*).]

### To John Sterling, Concord, August 15, 1842

[MS listed in Sotheby & Co., June 13 and 14, 1932, where it is described as a letter encouraging Sterling in his literary work.]

### To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, August 16, 1842[300]

Concord, August 16, 1842.

My dear Charles,

I heard with satisfaction a few days ago in Boston that you were safe home again at Brook Farm from Niagara; but Miss Peabody thought you had been sick. I hoped before this, that you would have remembered our importunities & transferred your trunk & books on some bright day to our meadows. I have great hope that we shall by & by make our village more attractive to you. Ellery Channing is staying with me already, with intent to fix himself here for the coming winter; & Margaret Fuller will come tomorrow to spend some weeks.[301] Meantime what have the months said to you? What colours have they brought, what dreamlike forms to fill the canvass you had already spread & dedicated to the Pure Mind In the crowd of travellers was

297. *Cf.* Oct. 8, 1834.

298. Emerson probably remembered the story told in Pausanias, *Description of Greece*, IX, xxiii, 2.

299. Aug. 25, according to the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Aug. 26, 1842.

300. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Newcomb at Brook Farm.

301. *Cf.* Aug. 22 following.

there any trait of Edith [302] or of the hero? But my present business is with Dolon. Was the second part completed? Do you like it? Is it ready for me? [303] I had thought to come to Brook Farm for the purpose partly of gratifying my friend Mr Hosmer next Sunday, then I should see you, & know the state of the Manuscript. But I have a note from Mr Ward proposing to come here on that day; so you must send me the sheets through Miss Peabody if they are in readiness, and if not, or whether they are or not, you must send me tidings of yourself through the mail. If any delays have crept over Dolon, then you must be sure to send me a whole quire of criticism in sign to the living that you are alive. We have some good poetry already sent in from sure hands, and good prose promised but not sent in. My wife sends her love to you & says that the letters which she promised you [304] are scarcely worth your reading, & have also gone 150 miles to the dwelling of a wise Aunt, but on their return she still destines them to you. Your friend, R. W. Emerson.

## To William Emerson, Concord, August 22, 1842 [305]

Concord August 22, 1842

By the kind care of Mrs Whiting
Dear William,

We were very glad to hear from you once more by Mr Prichard.[306] Mother has arrived safely at home quite well of her lameness but very feeble & needing rest. Aunt Betsey is with her. Lidian is suffering from a swoln face the sequel of the dentist's operations. Margaret Fuller is spending some time with us, & so is Ellery Channing, a youth of whom I am very fond & hope to settle him in Concord near us, as he is now to choose a place for himself & his wife. He is Dr Walter's son – & married Ellen Fuller. Elizabeth H. is very well. The time of the preparation of the Dial is come again with its customary perplexities & burdens: but we have some good poetry prepared or preparing & I shall print my "Conservative" Lecture.[307] Dolon is sick; [308] so the public shall not be afflicted this time with Dolon.

302. *Cf.* the letters of May 22? and July 19, 1842.

303. Newcomb, in a letter postmarked Aug. 19, says he has been sick for three weeks and that there is little chance of the second "Dolon" or of any other writing for October. He seems to have made no further contribution to *The Dial.*

304. *Cf.* a note on May 22? 1842.

305. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

306. Probably William Prichard; *cf.* a note on Sept. 8, 1842, to William Emerson.

307. "The Conservative" was printed in *The Dial* for Oct., 1842.

308. See a note on Aug. 16, 1842.

Margaret F. is preparing me a paper on Romaic Poetry – did you ever read those Romaic songs? Goethe rendered some of them into German [309] & I have seen some of them in English – as good as Robin Hood. Joy to Willie with his pony! I think to print Charles C. E's account of Porto Rico [310] – Mr Mason will like to see it. Mamma & Lidian send dear love to you all; so do I. The gages came in excellent order & were duly honored.

Your

Waldo.

I send the map [311] because on exploration I find I have two. One I suppose you had given me before.

## To Ira M. Barton, Concord, August 30, 1842 [312]

Concord, 30 August, 1842.

Mr Ira M. Barton { Sec.y Worcester Lyceum

Dear Sir,

I am hardly able at this date, though I have already waited some days since receiving your letter [313] to return you any precise answer. I will however venture to say, in obedience to your request, that I will read to your Lyceum in the course of the Winter a series of five or six lectures on English Literature on Thursday Evenings. The Lyceum shall pay me Twenty Dollars for each lecture. Or, if you please, I will read as many lectures, not exceeding six, as the Lyceum shall request.

Yours respectfully,

R. W. Emerson.

## To Cuthbert C. Gordon, Concord? August 31, 1842

[Acknowledged in Gordon, New York, Oct. 1, 1842, which shows that Emerson had agreed to deliver two lectures before the Mercantile Library Association in New York during the following winter.]

309. *Goethe's Werke,* Stuttgart and Tübingen, 1827, III, 221–237.

310. See Apr. 3, 1843.

311. *Cf.* Aug. 11, 1842.

312. MS owned by the Rosenbach Company; ph. in CUL.

313. Barton, Worcester, Mass., Aug. 23, 1842, asked whether Emerson could deliver a course of lectures on English literature before the Worcester Lyceum the coming season, and, if so, on what terms. I have found no notice of lectures by Emerson in Worcester during the season of 1842–1843.

### To Caroline Sturgis, Concord? August, 1842 [314]

x x x He (Ellery) has great selfpossession, great simplicity & mastery of manner, very good sense, & seems to me to be very good company to live with. I much doubt his power to do anything good with a farm, & if he must maintain himself, I think he must learn to write. If he could only master his negligent impatient way of writing — this impatience of finishing, his sweet wise vein of thought & music would have no rival. And it seems worth his while to try, as I told him, when he sees that in a million lovers of poetry there shall not be one poet. x x x

### To Frederic Henry Hedge, Concord, September 1, 1842 [315]

Concord. 1 Sept. 1842

My dear Hedge,

I conclude to send the Oration [316] to Boston; I think it juster & better for it, that it should appear separate, as the college asks for it; and my design was rather to make large extracts, perhaps at two several times, than to print it at once. Another circumstance decides me, that my Second Lecture, prepared for this Number of the Dial, is entitled 'The Conservative.' We must not give toujours perdrix; and Margaret F. occupies so large a part of this number with Romaic poetry, perhaps 50 pp. that the remainder should be varied. These are some of the reasons, or parts of them. Yet I look at the MS hungrily; & doubtfully do I let it depart. I have read it carefully through, with no small curiosity, & with the more that I have just had under special revision my speech on the same matter; and some smart sentences of my new Lecture which I thought were original enough, I read here in your Discourse which I cannot deny that I heard a twelvemonth ago. Some things I like well — many are admirably said, — to some I should like to append a criticism, but the whole Oration is one which Colleges should be very thankful for. For the extract in your letter from Michelet,[317] I am very glad of it & shall print it in our "Intelligence." I wish

314. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is an incomplete copy made by Cabot, who has indicated the date and the person addressed. For the poet Channing's arrival in Concord and for Emerson's intention to settle him there, *cf.* Aug. 22 preceding.

315. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

316. See a note on Sept. 4, 1841.

317. Emerson probably means the quotation from Michelet on Schelling printed in the "Editor's Table," *The Dial*, III, 280 (Oct., 1842). The heading "Intelligence" was not used in that number.

you had given some preface or appendix more, perhaps you yet will.

Information of books & bookmakers we greatly want in our Journal. It is always attractive & refreshing as diversion from our thin romance & roaring politics. Indeed Criticism, English Criticism I always come back to as one of the most agreeable regions of reading. If you know anything about either of the foreign Universities, or their professors, do not fail to send it me: And if anything in the shape of poem, letter, or capriccio, come into your thought, for the Dial, entertain it & send it. We are expecting Alcott with his captive Englishmen home every week, & the faint Radicalism of the Magazine will be sansculottism shortly, past a doubt. I am glad you have seen my wonderful friend at Augusta,[318] & should gladly have heard more of her.

Yours affectionately, R. W. E.

### To Israel Putnam, Concord? September 8, 1842

[Mentioned in the letter of the same date to William Emerson.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, September 8, 1842 [319]

Concord, Sept. 8 1842

Dear William,

I will not let Mr Prichard [320] return without a salutation to you from us. We were glad to hear from you by him, & the box of plums came in the best order. Seven plums were the entire harvest of my plum orchard: the curculio, if that is the thiefs name, had all the rest. Lidian and her two hopes are well & Mother. I have this day written to Israel Putnam at Chelmsford to beg him to go to Charlestown & take Bulkeley home with him on trial again. Dr Bell thought it possible & B. begged hard to go — We have had here in these weeks both Margaret Fuller & Ellery Channing, two very brilliant guests. Margaret has spent her time in writing a paper which I beg you to read in the next Dial — on Rhine & Romaic songs. The Dial is my trial just now. Yet we shall get good matter for it. Alcott keeps me supplied from England with news, & even with Manuscripts. I have received two papers which I shall print, from London. The man has been very happy there & has been introduced to OConnel, Robert Owen, W. J. Fox, Dr Elliot-

318. See a note on May 29 and 31 and June 3, 1842.

319. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

320. The superscription shows the letter was to be carried by William Prichard.

son Dr Bowring as well as to Carlyle, Heraud, Marston, Barham, Doherty & other makers of books.[321] We expect him home now in a week or two. I have an invitation to lecture before the Mercantile L. Assoc in N. Y.[322] & also before a society of the same character in Baltimore [323] If I accept the last invitation, I think I shall go to Washington & see the brawl in the winter Dear love to Susan & to the boys.

R. W. E.

I said Ellery Channing was here We are quite concerned about him this night. Last Saturday he went to New Bedford from here meaning to return on Tuesday morn. His wife he was expecting on this day from Cincinnati. She arrived here tonight but we have heard nothing from him; nor she. She is very anxious. but a few hours may dispel the doubt. She was Ellen Fuller.

## To Theodore Parker, Concord, September 8, 1842 [324]

Concord, 8 Sept. 1842.

My dear Sir,

I received your pacquet so kindly prepared & so timely sent three days ago.[325] I confess when I came to see that you had spent so much good time & labor and in your state of reluctance from the pen on that most unpoetic unspiritual & un Dialled John Pierpont, my heart sank within me. I thought I had told you how unfit a subject I esteemed his head for our cabinet & that we had compounded for a very short article,[326] if he must be your hero. Well for fear I should be still more indisposed to the matter if I looked into the details, I decided at once that the piece should be received & printed purely out of honor to the contributor, and it should be his affair, & no other man should claim it as a precedent for our admission of strange gods into our Dial or Temple of the Spiritual Sun. So I sent the paper unread to the printer, directing him to send you the proofs forthwith, which he will

321. Alcott obviously furnished the information Emerson gave about a number of these men in his "English Reformers," printed in *The Dial* for the following October, where Charles Lane's article on Greaves also appeared.

322. Cuthbert C. Gordon, New York, Aug. 26, 1842, asked two lectures for the Mercantile Library Association.

323. *Cf.* Sept. *c.* 20? 1842.

324. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

325. Parker, Sept. 3, 1842, says his article is longer than Emerson wanted but treats of things in general as much as of Pierpont. Parker will try to send his article on Follen in a week or ten days. He incloses a letter from W. H. Channing.

326. See May 11, 1842.

doubtless do, after two proofs more are disposed of. I grieve that you should labor for such an ungrateful editor in the state of health you describe. Do not send me a word now about Dr Follen, as our Number is I suppose quite filled up. Margaret Fuller has written what I think will be a very attractive paper on Rhine & Romaic songs which reaches to the 44 page. And I have a large mass of papers to print or to give an account of from London through Alcott's hands, also a fair proportion of poems & miscellanies. I greatly regret W. H. Channing's failure to send us his opinion of your book, in full.[327] Neither have I his piece on Hennell,[328] which he waived to write on you. I will take care of his letter & return it. In the assured hope of your speedy reestablishment in health & strength, yours.

R. W. Emerson.

### To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord, September 15, 1842

[Printed in *Letters from Ralph Waldo Emerson to a Friend*, pp. 44–45. A fragmentary MS copy owned by RWEMA (ph. in CUL) contains nothing not given in the printed version.]

### To George Partridge Bradford, Concord? September *c.* 20, 1842

[Bradford, Plymouth, Mass., Sept. 13, 1842, asks about the prospect of a school at Concord. Bradford, Sept. 27 (1842), acknowledges "your kind letter last week," and says he decides to suspend his scheme for a school in Concord, for lack of encouragement, and will perhaps go to Brook Farm for the winter.]

### To Charles Bradenbaugh, Concord? September *c.* 20? 1842

[Bradenbaugh, Baltimore, Sept. 24, 1842, acknowledges "receipt of your late favor," explains that Bancroft is engaged for Jan. 3, suggests Jan. 10 and 17 for Emerson's own lectures at the Mercantile Library Association in Baltimore, and asks a reply by return mail — which Emerson probably wrote.]

### To George W. Mudge, Concord? September 26, 1842

[Mudge, Lynn, Mass., Sept. 21, 1842, asks a lecture for the Lynn Lyceum; and the endorsement shows Emerson answered that he would come if given the first or second Wednesday in November. Mudge, Oct. 3, 1842, refers to Emerson's letter as of Sept. 26 and states that Nov. 2 is the date set for the lecture.]

### To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord? September 30, 1842

[Printed in *Letters from Ralph Waldo Emerson to a Friend*, p. 53.]

327. *Cf.* June 30, 1842.
328. See July 17, 1842.

## To William Emerson, Concord, October 5, 1842 [329]

Concord, 5 Oct. 1842.

Dear William,

I received your kind letter [330] on Monday with regret for your hard times & was about to reply to you that I could easily wait two or three weeks – but this morning I received your new letter & its enclosed cheque for $140.88 which I hope you have not suffered that I might enjoy. In reply to your inquiry respecting my banks = the City Bank for 18 months past so false a friend, has, this time, after a threat to pay nothing, paid 2 per cent & promises a sound condition for the time to come. The Atlantic pays 3. But the deficit in these 18 months of 900. makes me still rather a poor man, that is an indebted one; so that I think to go peddling again [331] this coming winter with my literary pack of Notions. I have promised the Baltimore society to read two lectures to them in January & as Greeley writes to assure me I may " command " an audience in N. Y. – so is he pleased to say, I think I may try my fortunes there once more, if, as I now believe, I shall get out a new course of lectures that promise well. For to Boston this winter I do not mean to go but in Philadelphia I will perhaps make an attempt. Your Mercantile Libr Society I am to read two unto sometime late in their season; so they shall not interfere with my private enterprize if I get ready & bold enough for it. We are looking here every day for Alcott's return He brings back with him Mr Lane & Mr Wright. Lidian loudly proclaims in the house this day when we hear it, that they shall not come into the good town. I threaten in return that she shall yet entreat them or some of them in vain to come to her. We are all glad to get good news of the babe & the boys: Mother is well & thanks S. for her kind letter & Lidian & both send love to you & to Susan & to all. I did not hear Mr Webster: but like the attitude which his speech reveals.[332] If he speak again, I will try & hear him. Tell me if you like the Dial Margaret F's article on Romaic Ballads and my little poem on poetical ethics called Saadi.[333]

Yours ever Waldo.

329. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

330. In his letter of Sept. 29, 1842 (owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), William asked permission to delay his payment of interest; but on Oct. 3 following he sent the check mentioned below (MS letter owned by Dr. Haven Emerson).

331. For the lectures planned, *cf.* Sept. 8, 1842, to William Emerson.

332. Webster's speech of Sept. 30 at Faneuil Hall is reported in the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, Oct. 1, 1842.

333. " Saadi," like Margaret Fuller's much-announced " Romaic and Rhine Bal-

Bulkeley for two weeks has been at Chelmsford, but I dare not think he will long remain there But it is a recreation to him which he greatly enjoys.

Ralph Haskins did pay that balance of I believe $11.00

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, October 11 and 12? 1842 [334]

Concord 11 October 1842

Dear Margaret,

I will not tax your patience another day, but will write you a few lines out of this cold silent idle corner of the good vocal

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lads," based on the collections by Fauriel and Simrock, appeared in *The Dial* for Oct., 1842.

334. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Margaret Fuller answered this letter on the 16th:

"Sunday 16th Oct[r]

"Dear Waldo — I can hardly believe that it is a month this day since I passed a true Sabbath in reading your journals, and Ellery's book, and talking with you in the study. I have not felt separated from you yet. — It is not yet time for me to have my dwelling near you. I get, after a while, even *intoxicated* with your mind, and do not live enough in myself. Now dont screw up your lip to an ungracious pettiness, but hear the words of frank affection as they deserve 'mente cordis' Let no cold breath paralyze my hope that there will yet be a noble and profound understanding between us. We have gone so far, and yet so little way. I understand the leadings of your thought better & better, and I feel a conviction that I shall be worthy of this friendship, that I shall be led day by day to purify, to harmonize my being, to enlarge my experiences, and clear the eye of intelligence till after long long patient waiting yourself shall claim a thousand years' interview at least. You need not be terrified at this prophecy nor look about for the keys of your cell. — *I* shall never claim an hour I begin to understand where I am, and feel more and more unfit to be with any body. I shall no more be so ruled by the affectionate expansions of my heart but my hope is great, though my daily life must be pallid and narrow.

"I must not try to say to you much that has passed in my mind which I should like you to know. I find no adequate expression for it.

"I do not know whether it is owing to this feeling of your mind being too near me that I have not yet been able to finish the ragged rhymes I meant for you. I got along well enough till the point of division came, where I wanted to show that the permanent marriage cannot interfere with the soul's destiny, when lo! this future which has seemed so clear, vanished and left me without a word, yet unconvinced of your way of thinking. There lies the paper, and I expect the hour may yet come when I can make out my case, if so, it will be sent

"Will you have the rhymes I gave Lidian copied & sent me by Ellery, that is, if she wishes to retain the original. *Dont* think this request silly: I want to put them in my journal of that week. They interest me from their connection And will you send my little picture and all the papers you have of mine E. Hooper's & Caroline's letters & — Penknife & key were touching symbols for me to leave, how can L. wish to send them back? — My love to her. I hoped she had had her share of nervous

world. Thanks first, strong though tardy for the Rhenish & Romaic wine,[335] which is good for all palates, and a quite indispensable & saving grace to our austere pic nic. Thanks then for your coming to see me,[336] & for your kindly behaviour to the old & incapable churl. But I

fever. To be sick & lose this weather of Paradise is sad. I have lost it well nigh as much amid my affairs. And yet not wholly for though shut up in the house, I have had the loveliest view from my window the same as from the window where I used to read the Italian poets, in young days. The thoughts of that time come back like an old familiar music at sight of the river & gentle hills; they are fair to me still. Heaven be praised it is the same cadence that I love best now, though then less rich, less deep —

"Apropos to the Italians, I am inclined to suspect H. T. of a grave joke upon my views, with his 'dauntless *infamy*.' — There is also *abstraction* for *obstruction*, which one would have thought such hacknied Shakspeare might have avoided. — I *am a little* vexed, having hoped my notice might meet the eye of the poet. Henry's verses read well, but meseems he has spoiled his 'Rumors' &c by substituting

"And simple truth on every tongue

for all the poems are unsung, or some such line which was *the* one that gave most character to the original and yet I admire the

"tread of high souled men.

The Dirge is more & more beautiful, & others feel it no less than I. S. Ward no less. — I like Parker's piece much; it is excellent in its way, the sneer is mild, almost courtly. Your essay I have read with delight, but it is true the passage about fate is weak; Seek a better. Why cannot the fate behind fate be brought out somehow? Saadi I have read many times. As to my own piece every one praises the few Rhine ballads, none the Romaic. If you could get me vouchers of interest for the Romaics, I should be encouraged to make a rosary of all the rest. — If any thing occurs to me I shall write for your Dial. I think now I should like to write my impressions of Dr Channing. If you go away I should *rather* you would leave the *Record of the Months* to me than to any one else, allowing sixteen or twenty pages for it, but if you are here, will give any thing I may have to your discretion. — The new Essays, come and read to me, if not to Boston, I pray.

"Alas! here I am at the end of my paper, and have told you nothing of my stay at Brook Farm, where I gave *conversations* on alternate evenings with the husking parties. But you will come to see me in my new home, & then I will tell you. My first visitor last Sunday was S. Ward. My second next day W. Channing. The following day I expected *you*, & since you were not so kind as to come, observe with pleasure that your letter dates from that day. Adieu, dear friend, be good to me, think of me, and write to me. The days of toil & care are coming when I shall need your ray, mellow if distant. I owe to the protection of your roof, to the soothing influence of your neighborhood, and to the gentle beauty of the Concord woods, some weeks of health and peace which have revived my courage, so unusually dulled last summer. To Lidians unfailing and generous kindness also I owe much. But you must be the better to me for my thanks

"'Most welcome they who need him most.'

"Love to Mamma and Lidian, and salute for me sweet Edith of the dewy eyes

"Richter is as you say. I will send you a little notice of the book from my journal."

335. See a note on Oct. 5, 1842.

336. *Cf.* the letters of Aug. 22 and Sept. 8, 1842, to William Emerson.

will not go on with the details of my gratitude, for why should I thank you for existing. Undoubtedly you find your own account in that and much that is substantial benefit to me is an inevitable fruit. I will not flatter my benefactors, O Buddh! [337] But not yet to leave the dear Dial, I have to say that if your eyes were tormented by that fine 'various reading' of Tennyson of 'infamy' for 'infancy,' [338] the faithful Henry T. must bear it. I went to walk with Hawthorn [339] on the morning when the last proof arrived having confided it with strait injunctions to H., who corrected much in the skeet but either did not see that or concluded that it was good Dialese. I did not fail to bring you & Tennyson full before his eyes.

I am expecting every day the arrival of my new neighbors [340] & what they may bring us for printing: and as I have much matter unprinted of the October collection I do not believe that I shall have to draw on your generosity for the care of the January Number. Henry has found no work such as he has sought for & stands quite ready to assist me in that, & I had rather draw on him than on you for such work. Think if you have any thing to say. I fear it will be long ere we shall have again so golden a subject as Rhine & Romaic. I shall always quote it as an example of a text so good that it was no matter whether the sermon was good or not. Please to invent me such another, out of some of your "Queen's high countries." And yet I mean not murder & will not ask you wantonly & selfishly to write. I had rather you would write no line for me for a year, than that you should write one too much for your health. But in a year or two, I shall come for the translation of the Nuova Vita.[341] I am dreaming as usual in my old trivialities. I have fancied lately, looking at some later notes I have, that I could perhaps write some lively chapters on the influences active in the last years on the intellect in America,[342] and that such topics as belong to the survey

337. I have not found the source of this and of the similar passage which occurs both in *Journals*, V, 408 (June 1, 1840), and in "The Transcendentalist" (*Cent. Ed.*, I, 337). *Cf.* also Sept. 4, 1871, to Forster.

338. In the review of Tennyson's *Poems*, Boston, 1842, in "Record of the Months," *The Dial*, III, 273 (Oct., 1842). Margaret Fuller, in her letter quoted above, refers to the same and to another error in the printing of this review. Obviously she was the author, and Cooke is wrong in giving the credit to Emerson.

339. Perhaps the walk begun on Sept. 27, to the village of Harvard (*Journals*, VI, 258 ff.; and *The American Notebooks*, ed. Randall Stewart, 1932, pp. 170–171).

340. Alcott's English friends Lane and Wright.

341. *Cf.* Dec. 12, 1842, and *Memoirs*, Boston, I, 240–241. For Emerson's interest in the book, see earlier letters, and, for his own translation of it, July 11, 1843.

342. This intention presently took form in his lectures on New England.

would make a better tone and liberty for lectures than any of my old names have done. If I prosper in my notations, I think to carry them not to Boston but to N. Y. I do not remember that I have read anything but Richter's Life [343] lately, which is such a good home made loaf that one should be thankful to the housewife who made it, if the sugar allspice & ginger all came from afar. I find with all his manliness & insight outsight oversight & undersight I grow soon weary & nervous of reading the good Jean Paul for there is a perpetual emphasis perpetual superlative. Farewell for this day [344]

Lidian is ill, feverish, again in these days She sends her love & laments that she long forgot to send a key & penknife which were discovered in your chamber. Ellery has them. Elizabeth has Belinda Randall [345] with her: & G. P. B stays at Roxbury & comes not to Concord this winter.[346]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, October 15, 1842

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed incompletely in *C–E Corr.*, 1883, where, at the point indicated in that text, not quite half a page of the MS text is omitted. In the omitted passage Emerson regrets Alcott's behavior in a conversation with Carlyle.]

### To Mary Moody Emerson, Concord? October 18, 1842

[Mentioned in Oct. 19, 1842.]

### To Margaret Fuller, Concord, October 19, 1842 [347]

Concord, Wednesday Morning, 19 Oct –

Dear Margaret,

Lidian will copy or cause to be copied the verses & I will send them with the other papers of yours by the next opportunity. Thanks for the letter in all its parts. I shall soon hope to see you at your own house. Meantime, if you have any connected thought on Dr Channing,[348] I shall hail it. I wrote something about him yesterday to

343. Perhaps *Wahrheit aus Jean Paul's Leben*, 1826.

344. It seems probable, but by no means certain, that what follows was written on Oct. 12, the date of the postmark.

345. *Cf. Early Letters of George Wm. Curtis*, pp. 187–188.

346. See Sept. *c.* 20, 1842.

347. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. According to the superscription, the letter was carried to Cambridge by the younger William Ellery Channing. It answers Margaret Fuller's letter of Oct. 16, quoted in a note on Oct. 11 and 12? 1842.

348. William Ellery Channing, the famous preacher, had died on Oct. 2.

my Aunt Mary, which seemed so true that I copied it & will keep it for you. I send you today Carolines papers — after a few more glances into them because they must go — I like well to be the depositary of these records, & such as these. — At any future occasion, if I am here, you shall make me that again. The stage comes too soon than that I should turn the page.

Yours, Waldo.

### To Luke Reed, Jr., Concord? October? *c.* 20? 1842

[Reed, Newark, N. J., Oct. 18, 1842, asks a lecture for the Mercantile Literary Association of Newark. Emerson's endorsement shows he answered favorably but left the time to be settled later.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, October 26, 1842 [349]

Concord, Oct. 26, 1842.

Dear William,

Miss Jane Whiting [350] offers to carry a line, so it shall go to say that we all remember & love you. Alcott & his friends Lane & Wright have safely arrived,[351] & we expect Mr Lane & son (a boy of 9 or 10 years) to spend a few weeks with us. Lane seems to be quite a superior person. He is the author of the two pieces on Greaves & on Cromwell, in the last Dial.[352] They have brought out a thousand volumes, chiefly mystical & philosophical books,[353] — which I saw safely through the Custom House forms yesterday, & tonight this cabalistic collection arrives in Concord. We shall scarcely need the moon any longer o' nights. They have brought 9 or 10 volumes of Mr Greaves's MSS, & some casts & prints of him & others, & what with these, & their wonderful selves, they hardly believe that they have left anything behind them in England.

Yesterday in Boston I met Horatio Greenough the sculptor just arrived from Italy [354] & had some talk with him; presently after with Ban-

349. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

350. Presumably Louisa Jane, sister of the William Whiting mentioned in Aug. 3, 1863 (see *Memoirs of . . . the Social Circle,* 2d series, p. 255).

351. Alcott, Lane and his son, and Wright had arrived in the "Leland" from London on Oct. 21 (*Daily Evening Transcript,* Oct. 21, 1842).

352. For Oct., 1842.

353. See Nov. 21 and 25, 1842.

354. Greenough is listed in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Oct. 24, 1842, as among the passengers aboard the "Emerald," which reached New York from Havre on Oct. 21.

croft, also in the street. Before I left town, I met Sampson Reed in the street & talked with him; then Sam. Ward; then George Bradford; then Theodore Parker; and came away thinking Boston streets not the meanest places, when I could find in them six such gossips as these in one walk. — I have never told you that I carried your bill of say $33.00 to Mr Brigham,[355] & he said that he would attend to it & that the Granite Bank should pay it, I so understood, to Barnard & Adams. But he has never paid it, or I should have heard of it. You must account it a ship not yet come into port. Bulkeley remains at Chelmsford, and as I hear nothing, I trust, is well. George & Ralph E came to see us last Saturday & spent the night, but our fine Parisian cousin [356] was as full of fight as a young theologian from Andover. But he is an affectionate youth & seems to love his relations. With love from all this house to all of yours, your affectionate brother

Waldo

## To Cuthbert C. Gordon, Concord? October 26, 1842

[Acknowledged in Gordon, New York, Oct. 31, 1842, which states that Emerson has been placed at the close of the course, as he requested, but that there is no room for Hedge or Dwight. Emerson's endorsement on Gordon, Oct. 1, 1842, may refer to this letter of Oct. 26, though more likely to one written by Emerson, I conjecture, about Oct. 3 and stating his preference for the first weeks of March or the last weeks of February — this message Emerson clearly wrote to Gordon at one time or another.]

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, October 30, 1842 [357]

Concord
Sunday
30 Oct

Dear Margaret,

When I came to Boston it was as usual on despotic " Errands " & I had not so much as a thought Cambridgeward. That ward is for freer days. Lidian sends the poetry saying that she has had no power to copy it and you may have it for a little & then return it as-

355. Possibly William Brigham, listed as a counselor in *Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1842. William Emerson, Oct. 3, 1842 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), said that the amount of this bill would cover part of the interest he owed his brother.

356. See a note on Apr. 20 and 23, 1831.

357. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Oct. 30 fell on Sunday in 1842, and other letters to Margaret Fuller of this time are directed, like this one, to Cambridge.

suredly. She sends her love to you & says that it is Waldo's birthday and that her life is darkened. Another hour a brighter page Yours, Waldo –

E. H.'s verses L. has mislaid; but they are safe.

P. S. I find & enclose one: is there another?

### To Theodore Parker, Concord? November 7? 1842 [358]

My dear Sir,

Will you not come to my house next Thursday and meet Messrs Lane, Wright, & Alcott, who promise to unfold as far as they can their idea of a true social institution. I have said to them that we have sometimes found club meetings somewhat desultory & unprofitable, but that if they would describe their project to us with what definiteness & completeness they can, the conversation would interest good men They are content to make the experiment and please themselves with the hope of seeing you. I have also asked Ripley, Bartlett, Brownson & a few others. Let me look for you between 12 & 1 o'clock. – and do not fail me.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

### To Orestes Augustus Brownson, Concord? November? *c.* 7? 1842

[Brownson, Chelsea, Mass., Nov. 9, 1842, says he cannot accept Emerson's invitation to attend a meeting at Emerson's home on the 10th and sends his respects to Lane, Alcott, and Wright. *Cf.* Nov. 7? There were probably other letters on the same subject.]

### To Margaret Fuller, Concord, November 16, 1842 [359]

Concord, 16 Nov. 1842.

Dear Margaret,

It seems to me very ungrateful this long silence of mine, and here it

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Lidian Emerson's intention to copy the poetry – apparently Ellen Hooper's – is mentioned in Oct. 19, 1842. Waldo was born Oct. 30, 1836; and his death is recorded in the letters of Jan. 27, 1842.

358. MS owned by Mr. William H. M. Adams; ph. in CUL. The address is to Parker at West Roxbury; and there is a postmark dated Nov. 7, apparently at Concord, though the name of the town is badly blurred. The Thursday mentioned in the invitation was November 10 (*cf.* the letter of Nov.? *c.* 7?). Parker, as Emerson reported to Hedge (Nov. 21 and 25 following), failed to come.

359. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Cambridge. On Nov. 8 she had written as follows:

" I suppose we poor private friends must not expect to hear from thee, dear Waldo, till it shall have been finally settled how many generations must live on ' vegetables '

shall end, for I will not have you dream I am composing an Epic nor an Encyclopaedia. no nor a Community. The arrival of the Englishmen [360] did occupy some days – with themselves & their books, & the discussion of as well as with them, but they sequester themselves now for the most part at the Cottage & I see them but little. They are intelligent men but can hardly be classed together. Lane is a man of fine powers and of an elevated character of good manners and of a religious life. His powers of conversation are so superior, that they tempt him continually to a little play for victory, and right able & brilliant he is; but alone, man to man, he is found a very sincere conscientious person. If he were not very *good* he would I think weary of this long closeting with Mr Alcott & Mr Wright, who cannot chat, or so much as open the mouth on aught less than A New Solar System & the prospective Education in the Nebulae. All day all night they hold perpetual Parliament. I tried to detach Lane & bring him to our house, as a sort of cooling furnace, or, a place where he might be partially corrupted & fitted for the grosser realities of the Yankee land. But he tried us for one day or two, & fled again. Whenever he can be had by himself, I shall like to see him very well. So with Alcott; I have scarcely exchanged a reasonable word with him since his return; for what conversation can be with triumvirs? Mr Wright seems to be a cool, amiable, scholarly man, who has been taught the languages, & thoroughly drilled in the mysticism of the English Educationists, – Pestalozzi, Krummacher,[361] Boehmen, & even Plato in a measure, & under certain relations. But Mr Greaves has been the teacher & mover of both these men, and it will be long

before man can finally be reinstated in his birthright and walk the market place, fair, strong, & pure as the archangel Michael. – And then when that point has been sufficiently discussed come his scribblings for the instruction of a still unregenerate world, alas, alas! the poor privates are like to be 'left sitting' as the Germans phrase it, for a long time.

"We live along here, a moderate but not beggarly life, freed for the present from great questions or great wants, a pensioned sojourn in the outer porch, but where is heard music from the temple, not less sweet that it swells from a distance.

"Should you write some notice of Dr C. for your *dial* if I did not? I have written, but the record seems best adapted for my particular use, & I know not whether I shall come to any thing more general. If you should not write more than you have, will you send me your one stroke on the nail head for me to look at.

"ever your affectionate
"Margaret.
"Nov 8th, 1842."

360. See Oct. 26, 1842, to William Emerson.

361. Probably Friedrich Adolph Krummacher, whose *Parabeln* was among the books at Fruitlands (*The Dial*, III, 546: Apr., 1843).

before they outgrow that influence. It is a great happiness too, & would be without pain or drawback if they had any poetry, but they are confident as Jove that there is no such thing. Greaves is a great man. I have a book full of his sentences on my table which is like some Menu [362] transmigrated into Burton Street, London; though it is Spiritualism from an armchair, & not from the Ghauts or the Ganges' side. I have read but a few sentences, for you soon have enough, & perhaps any five are as good as any other five, & say the same thing. But soon you shall have specimens, for Lane is to continue his paper by giving specimens of his Master in the January Dial.[363] — Yes, I depend certainly on your account of Dr Channing, for January. I will send you mine, I think. I will if I can write it off. —, to see, not to print. My digestion of matters for new lectures is so slow that I dare not yet say what I will do or not do; but hope to write you very soon again. I was at Brook Farm on Sunday, & everything wore a pleasant & a substantial look, which I was glad to see. They told me you were at the happy Music Festival at the Academy [364] & Elizabeth told me of the first Conversation.[365] But where is Ellery, Where is my Poet? The autumn is fast wearing into winter and the fine days are all unsung I hope he has heard better news from his Lares & Penates. If not, he must come & carve him new ones with axe & saw in Walden woods. Give my love to him. Lidian sends her love to you. Do you know what became of a letter from E. P. P. about Brook Farm, which, I believe, you carried up to the Hawthorns, & which has never reappeared? [366] Yours affectionately,

Waldo

## To Frederic Henry Hedge, Concord, November 21 and 25, 1842 [367]

Concord, 21 Nov. 1842

My dear Hedge,

Along with this sheet I mean to put in the mail-

362. For Emerson's earlier knowledge of this work, see a note on Aug. 4, 1873.

363. Lane's continuation of his article on Greaves duly appeared in Jan., 1843. Emerson himself seems to have supplied the brief notice of Channing which was printed in that number.

364. The first concert of the series by the Boston Academy of Music was finally announced for Nov. 12 (*Boston Daily Advertiser,* Nov. 5, 1842).

365. During these years, Margaret Fuller seems regularly to have begun her conversations in November (*Memoirs,* Boston, I, 350).

366. See Nov. 28? 1842.

367. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Hedge at Bangor, Me.; the Concord postmark is dated Nov. 25.

bags " Schelling's Erste Vorlesung " which Wheeler has just sent from Heidelberg, & which you promised to translate for us.[368] I hope it may find you at sufficient leisure to turn it into English forthwith, since it is of such reasonable length. Then, if we have not other matter as good & better we can print it in all December for January. I have just been reading it or rather in it, but it seemed to me to have rather the interest of *position* than of thought.

We have here in Concord Alcott again & his English colleagues Lane & Wright. Last week we summoned a company to my house to hear them unfold their doctrine of social life. Brownson & Parker came not, but Hawthorn, Bartlett,[369] George Ripley & all Brook Farm came in strength. Lane is a very superior person with great powers of thought & speech, & a man of a reserved & religious habit of life. They talk of buying a farm in these parts to realize their high ideas. May they prosper. Lane wrote in the last Dial " J. P. Greaves " & " Cromwell " and promises for the new one the continuation of the former paper with extracts from the MSS of his great man. We are not sure of any other original paper of interest. Sooner or later we shall print some account of the rare & valuable mystical library of a thousand volumes,[370] our voyagers have brought with them. Alcott's little cottage is more than a rival to Gore Hall.[371] Then Wheeler has sent a most faithful report of German Universities & Scholars as far as known to him, in a letter of two sheets, whose substance I shall print. He had seen Schlegel at Bonn; Schlosser; old Paulus; Ullmann, a lecturer on Church History; Dr Bähr an Editor of Herodotus; & others, whom he celebrates. Tieck had been ill with apoplexy but is getting well now in his 70th year. Hegel's papers all going to press; &c.&c. but the chief matter which he sends, is Schelling at Berlin, the speeches, compliments, actions, & reactions. at the first course of lectures, 300 students; at the second, only

368. Hedge's translation, " Schelling's Introductory Lecture in Berlin, 15th Nov., 1841," was printed in *The Dial* for Jan., 1843. Parts of Charles Stearns Wheeler's letters to Emerson from Germany were printed in the same number and in that for Apr., 1843.

369. Doubtless Robert Bartlett; *cf.* the letters of June 23, 1841, and *c.* June? 1841? The meeting reported here is announced in the letter of Nov. 7? 1842.

370. The " Catalogue of Books " in *The Dial*, III, 545–548 (Apr., 1843), is prefaced with the statement that this library of about a thousand volumes brought by Alcott and Lane from England contains a richer collection of mystical writers than any other library in this country.

371. Gore Hall, the first building at Harvard devoted exclusively to a library, was completed in 1841 (*The Development of Harvard University*, ed. S. E. Morison, 1930, p. 608).

sixty. I ought to have a Daguerre copy of the long fine letter [372] to send you.

25 Nov. This sheet which I carried to Boston 3 days ago with intent to deposit in the mail bags there, has ridden safely to & fro until this ten of the clock A. M. of the good Friday that follows Thanksgiving. This day, according to an ancient custom of six years standing, Mr & Mrs Ripley of W. shall dine with me; G. P. B. who belongs always to the party, this day will not come; Hawthorn & his wife must supply his place. At Cambridge Margaret F. begged for the 'Vorlesung' and I mean no pun, so I left it with her to go by mail next day. I did not mean it should cost you anything but for this accident, & all your communications to or concerning the Dial shd. come post *un*paid. Can you translate it for the public good, & still leave me the privilege of *not* printing it, at the last hour. I take great pride & pleasure in that excellent text of King David who would *not drink* the water which his heroes had bro't him at peril of their lives.[373] I think he must have been an Editor of the Dial. — What news for you? Lieutenant Greene [374] preached for Brownson a week or more since, with tolerable success. Jones Very, as I learn by a letter from him yesterday, has begun to preach, has preached at New Bedford. Geo. P. B. has decided to teach again at Brook Farm this winter.[375] Parker, they told me in Boston, has an unexampled success, & speaks weekly to a breathless audience of near 3000 souls at the Marlboro Chapel.[376] Bancroft is a great lecturer this winter, & made a fine discourse on Dr Channing in one of them.[377] He is going to break ground at Baltimore soon, before the Merc. Library Association, whither I am to follow him.[378] New England in the shape of Lectures & Thanksgiving creeps southward & westward every season. I am trying to write some chapters for this Southern company on that topic — New England.

Yours affectionately

R. W. Emerson.

372. Wheeler wrote a notable report of German literary gossip in a beautiful hand. The summary here given is of Wheeler, Heidelberg, Oct. 20–23, 1842.

373. *I Chronicles*, 11:17–18.

374. See Nov. 9, 1841.

375. Bradford's official title at this time was, it seems, Instructor in Belles Lettres (Codman, *Brook Farm*, 1894, p. 10).

376. So successful were the "Six Plain Sermons for the Times" that Parker repeated them in several places near Boston (John Weiss, *Life and Correspondence of Theodore Parker*, 1864, I, 186).

377. The address "William Ellery Channing," dated Nov., 1842, is printed in George Bancroft, *Literary and Historical Miscellanies*, 1855, pp. 436–443.

378. See Sept. *c.* 20? preceding.

## To William Emerson, Concord, November 25, 1842 [379]

Concord, 25 Nov. 1842 –

Dear William,

According to a custom of six years' antiquity, we keep festival this good Friday after Thanksgiving and expect Mr & Mrs S. Ripley & Gore, Elizabeth Hoar Mr & Mrs Hawthorn and Mrs Brown to dine with us.: G P Bradford, who belongs always to the party, cannot come today. But Bulkeley is here these two days past, from Chelmsford, & is in his best state. I heartily wish that some swift locomotive could bring you & Susan & your household to us. We must arrange it so, – as soon as our railroad chain is perfect from N. Y to Concord, – to keep the solemn feast days together. Mother is very well, & we all. –

I have been trying my hand lately at setting down notes with a view to some set of Lectures that I could call " New England," that should be good enough to bring to the Southerner: but am not yet perfect in it. Neither is Dickens, certainly, – whom I read yesterday,[380] the slight, the exaggerating, the fabulous man. Yet his article is what he sold it for, lively rattle, readable enough, & very quotable into the philanthropic newspapers.

I do not know that you ever had a note [381] (I sent you, by some one whom I heard did not carry it) reciting that I carried your bill to Brigham, who promised to pay it to B. A. & Co, which he has never done.

Stearns Wheeler has written me from Heidelberg [382] a capital report of German Universities Schelling Schlegel Neander, &c &c which I shall print in great part in the Dial. Also he has sent me Schellings Introductory Lecture at Berlin now in his reappearance after 25 years. Yours affectionately

Waldo –

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord? November 28? 1842 [383]

Dear Margaret,

I wrote off this enclosed extract the other day but no

379. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

380. Copies of Dickens's *American Notes* had been brought to New York on the " Great Western," which arrived there on Nov. 6. An American edition was on sale the next day. Presently there were new editions. One Boston firm reported that it had sold seven thousand copies in one day. (*Boston Daily Advertiser,* Nov. 9 and 10, 1842.)

381. Oct. 26, 1842, to William Emerson.

382. See notes on the letter of Nov. 21 and 25, 1842.

383. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret

friendly Cantabrigian passed by but friendly or unfriendly Time passed and the mail coach his modern representative passed & passes; so we will wait no longer. The lost letter of E. P. P.[384] has been found. Lidian is gone to Plymouth drawn thither by the news that Sophia Brown was very ill. I have spoken, tell Ellery,[385] to Mrs Hayward, & she is content to go without lodgers, or to tell me when she has a good offer. Yours,

Waldo

To George Partridge Bradford, Concord? November *c.* 29? 1842

[Bradford, Boston, Dec. 1, 1842, says Emerson's letter arrived Nov. 30. Bradford adds comments on his own reading and on his illness.]

To William Emerson, Concord? November 30, 1842[386]

Dear William,

I enclose a letter which Bulkeley has been at much pains to write fairly to you but which unhappily he blotted by an overturn of his inkstand just as it was ended. We are all well & send you & yours our love.

Waldo —

30 Nov.

To Elizabeth Palmer Peabody, Concord? December 1, 1842[387]

I am sorry to say that Mr Alcott who received for me the Vienna Jahrbuch[388] did not succeed in bringing it home, but left it as he thinks at Munroe's shop, where he wrote an advertisement. I should be greatly obliged to your father if he would call there & obtain the book, if it is to be found. and give it a new direction to me through the Concord (P. M.) Coach. Munroe ought in these days to have a book for Mr Thoreau or me, which might come with it. — I have never received the

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Fuller at Cambridge, and the Concord postmark is dated Nov. 28. Evidence cited below shows that the year is 1842.

384. See Nov. 16, 1842.

385. For the poet Channing's trial residence in Concord, see the letters of Aug. 22 and Sept. 8, 1842, to William Emerson.

386. MS owned by Mr. Edward Waldo Forbes; ph. in CUL. William Emerson endorsed this letter "Novr 30/42."

387. MS, owned by Miss Clara Endicott Sears, at Fruitlands; a MS copy I have made from the original is in CUL.

388. Doubtless the *Jahrbücher der Literatur,* of Vienna, the hundredth volume of which was for Oct., Nov., and Dec., 1842.

Boston Miscellany for November,[389] nor the Cambridge Magazine.[390] I will beg you to demand these books once more for the Dial. I have nothing quite yet to tell you of the sheets you lately sent me, but will quickly give some account of them.

Respectfully,
R. W. Emerson

1 Dec. 1842

What is the address of Torry & Thurston? [391]

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, December 12, 1842 [392]

Concord 12 Dec

Dear Margaret

It is a pleasure to begin to write to you, though I have only to acknowledge the generous pacquet which came by Thoreau. I have digested the disappointment of missing your tribute to Dr C.,[393] the better, that I hate to have my noble plant bleed so profusely for the nourishment of whomsoever, & am always glad when you get a day of repose. I am sure it must be true what you say concerning the 'Nuova Vita,' & my omissions in respect to it; and in bright spring or summer days when you also want the book, you shall make good Saxon of it [394] & add that to all your benefits to me. I had a very pleasant visit in town last week & a good time at S. W.'s [395] Ellery has been prolific of good verses and showed me many which would content & delight every gentle

389. See Dec. 4, 1841, to Lowell. The number for Nov., 1842, is advertised in the *Daily Evening Transcript* of Oct. 29, 1842, as just received.

390. Perhaps *The Cambridge Miscellany of Mathematics, Physics, and Astronomy*, the first number of which had been reviewed in *The Dial* for July, 1842.

391. Vol. III of *The Dial* was printed by Thurston & Torry and published by Elizabeth Peabody.

392. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Cambridge. The year is obviously 1842.

393. *Cf.* the letters of Oct. 19 and Nov. 16, 1842.

394. *Cf.* a note on Oct. 11 and 12? 1842. I have not seen the letter from Margaret Fuller which must have inspired this passage, but in a letter apparently only partly printed in *Memoirs* and there dated Dec., 1842, she announced that she would not translate the *Vita nuova* after all. She was not equal, she said, to such a task. "Italian, as well as German, I learned by myself, unassisted, except as to the pronunciation. . . . I have used all the means within my reach, but my not going abroad is an insuperable defect in the technical part of my education. . . . Lord Brougham should not translate Greek orations, nor a maid-of-all-work attempt such a piece of delicate handling as to translate the *Vita Nuova*." (*Memoirs*, Boston, I, 240–241.)

395. Samuel Gray Ward's.

soul that was not an Editor. A true poet that child is, and nothing proves it so much as his worst verses: sink or swim, — hit or miss, he writes on, & is never responsible. Verses to Elizabeth,[396] verses to Caroline, verses to Anna,[397] all full of generous self trust to the light spirit & affection of the moment, and all significant of a fine delicate region in which he has been wandering happily, but — never a printable poem at all.[398] Then I was enriched by seeing him also, and shall come no doubt to love him dearly. Ward has sent me some additional wonderful verses of E.'s concerning inspiration, which gave me a truly happy hour this morning (they are addressed to A. W — who would have him write at her Desk) and contain magical passages besides that they are winged & wingleted — a perfect flutter of vans & plumes throughout. Then a poem to Death [399] I have, with great beauties. — Sam too was good to me & indulged me with a tête a tête after my own dry & abominable heart, upon pure generalities. I staid very late, like a grammarian who had been treated with nouns. Next morning, I saw Caroline; and at night on my way home was well disposed to offer a hecatomb to Friendship. — Let me not come to the end of this billet without giving Wheeler's message (in that letter which I showed you in Cambridge) that he has yet learned little of Count Platen too little yet to write you,: [400] Munich was his home he has now been dead some years — Cotta's double columned 8vo of 500 pages is the best edition of his works.[401] — I have a new letter from that industrious friendly youth full of German professors not so readable as printable, & so a good contrast to E's poetry.

I have nothing to say to you tonight concerning the verses you send me except that I prize them & will write you concerning them hereafter. But I rejoice always that you exist & all good that befals you is good to your friend

W.

396. These and the verses to Caroline may be "To * * *" and "To ———" in *The Dial,* Apr., 1843. *Cf.* "To Elizabeth," in his *Poems,* 1847, pp. 46–49.

397. Probably "Anna" in *The Dial* for Jan., 1843, called "To Anna" in Channing's *Poems,* 1843, p. 89.

398. Emerson recanted in Dec. 31, 1842.

399. Channing's "Death" was printed in *The Dial* for Jan., 1843.

400. Wheeler, Heidelberg, Jan. 5–26, 1843, included the delayed information on Platen.

401. Emerson must mean *Gesammelte Werke des Grafen August von Platen,* 1839.

## To Charles Stearns Wheeler, Concord? December *c.* 12? 1842

[Dec. 12, 1842, mentions a new letter from Wheeler, which Emerson probably answered about this time. Wheeler, Heidelberg, Jan. 5–26, 1843, says he received a letter from Emerson on Jan. 4. Probably there was at least one more to Wheeler before Apr. 30, 1843.]

## To Margaret Fuller, Portland, Maine, December 21, 1842 [402]

[1]*21 December 1842*[1]

Dear Margaret,

Here in a tavern in Portland whither I came for the joint purpose of attending the wedding of a young relative of mine last eve., and of reading a lecture to a Lyceum tonight,[403] your friendly genius comes before me with more than usual life, and the hour shall be yours. What would you have, that you come thus into my mind? My trivial travelling anecdotes? None have I to tell, & yet I was upset in the sleigh stage yesterday in a snowbank in Berwick with six-insides, an accident which produced some slight wounds & some sudden developments of character in the ladies who emerged successively (one of them cursing & swearing without stint) from the bowels of the coach. We saw the great Shaker settlement in Alfred,[404] but after that in [II]many & many a mile nothing but snow[II] & stars [III]& pinetrees: and in travelling it is sometimes possible to have a superfluity of these fine objects. The villages were few & cold as the Tobolsk & Irkutsks of Siberia, & I bethought myself as I stared into the *white* night whether I had not committed some misdemeanor against some Czar and while I dreamed of Maine was bound a thousand versts into arctic Asia.[III] For this which we traversed was no great road with friendly Sacos & Kennebunks interspersed but a high rural road dear in summer to the bears. But sermons never so long have an end and our caravan fairly reached Casco Bay at nine o'clock. [IV]Here I have seen, beside[IV] Dr Nichols & Mr Willis, Judge Preble,[405] [V]who was lately a commissioner on the part of Maine in the Ashburton negotiations, a very sensible person, but, what

402. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–V are in Cabot, II, 476–477. The indication of an omission in the fifth excerpt in Cabot is an error.

403. D. G. Haskins (p. 129) tells how he arranged for the lecture in order to secure his cousin's attendance at the wedding. There was a violent storm at Portland on the evening of Dec. 21 and Emerson's audience was small (*Eastern Argus*, Dec. 22, 1842).

404. A print showing the "Shaker Village, Alfred, Maine" is published in Anna White and Leila Taylor, *Shakerism*, n.d. (c. 1904), opposite p. 77.

405. Ichabod Nichols, minister of the first parish in Portland, had first received

is remarkable, called a good democrat here, whilst his discourse is full of despondency on the entire failure of republican institutions in this country, — they have neither cherished talent nor virtue, they have never had large nor even prudent aims, none but low personal ones, & the lowest; and the officers of the government are taken every year from a lower & lower class, and the root of the whole evil is — Universal Suffrage. Every man deserves an answer but few get one. Words are a pretty game, but experience the only mathematician who can solve problems; and yet I amused the man with my thrum that Anarchy is the form & theocracy the fact to which we & all people are tending, which seemed to him a pretty soap bubble. I never see people without observing that strength or weakness is a kind of atmospheric fact; if a man is so related to his topic & to the bystanders that he happily expresses himself, — well; if not, he is a fool: quite independent of the relations of both to reason & truth. Plainly we are cackling geese when we do not feel relations, let the absolutist be as grand as he will. Therefore let time & space stand, and men & meetinghouses & Washington & Paris, & phrenology & mesmerism, & the old Beelzebub himself, for relations shall rule & realities shall strike sail.[v] Among the living things in this ark I have found the biblical professor Bush [406] the hardest matter of fact man & yet going *totus et rotundus* [407] like a cannonball for Daniel & the Revelations. he has counted the ten horns [408] & found the logarithm of the seventy weeks,[409] & knows the color & the humors of the Dragon's eye & writes all & will read all to the smallest audiences in every town & city from New Y. to Bangor whither now as he told me his steps are tending. Well I have prated as you see to the foot of the page, though you, O daughter of Gallio! care for none of these things.[410] My tavern pen is of hard steel & does not favor scribacity, else I might try to appease you with kindlier themes than snowbanks & men of snow; but of the last, you know, I am chief, why should I not after my kind? Your warm cold friend

Waldo.

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the honorary degree in 1821. A William Willis is listed as counselor in *The Portland Reference Book*, 1846. L. C. Hatch's *Maine*, 1919, I, 250 and 281, gives an account of William Pitt Preble and his part in the controversy over the boundary shortly before this time.

406. *Cf.* Sept. 2, 1838, to Bush.

407. Probably from Horace's " totus, teres atque rotundus," *Satires*, II, vii, 86.

408. The dragon with the ten horns and the beast similarly equipped are from the twelfth and thirteenth chapters of *The Revelation.*

409. *Daniel*, 9:24.

410. *The Acts*, 18:17.

## To Benjamin Apthorp Gould, Jr., Portland? Maine, December 21, 1842 [411]

My dear Sir,

It is more than time that I should acknowledge the receipt of the three translations from Orpheus, which you were good enough to send me. I shall not use them in the coming *Dial,* as, besides a fair share of original verses, a brave man has done the whole *Prometheus Vinctus* into English for me, which will take quite as much space as the Greeks can claim for this quarter: [412] perhaps I shall not print the pieces hereafter, for what we select to print depends on the amount & value of all the contributions for any number, but I am not, for this uncertainty, less glad to receive such pieces as these. The Orphic poems, (which I only know in the translations of Cudworth & Thomas Taylor,) [413] have little poetic merit, as we commonly use that term, & little power to stimulate or to please, but must always retain a great value to literary & religious history. Then we are such victims of time & space, that what is really good in them is doubly dear, coming out of such a deep antiquity; and very beautiful to me, — more beautiful than any railroad or steamboat, is the fine art that can thus effect a communication between the mind of Orpheus & your own. I shall esteem it a great pleasure if you will make me again a party to any of your studies in this kind. But you shall not tell your father, that his old scholar,[414] on whom he threw away much kind pains, reads Orpheus only in translations.

Yours with thanks & regard,

R. W. Emerson.

B. A. Gould, Jr.

Dec. 21, 1842

411. MS owned by Goodspeed's Book Shop; ph. in CUL. For the probability that Emerson wrote from Portland, *cf.* the letter of the same date to Margaret Fuller.

412. None of Gould's translations was to be printed in *The Dial.* The "brave man" whose version of Aeschylus duly appeared in the number for Jan., 1843, was Thoreau.

413. Cudworth discussed Orpheus and the Orphic verses at length, quoting some of them in Greek and Latin, in *The True Intellectual System,* 1820, II, 73–101. For Emerson's copy of this work see a note on a letter of Sept. 21, 1841. The first and second editions of Thomas Taylor's translations of the hymns had appeared in 1792 and 1824.

414. *Cf.* the letter of Jan. 13 and 15, 1816.

## To Lidian Emerson, Concord, December 23, 1842 [415]

Friday Eve.

Dear Lidian

Great disappointment among the young & old folks that you did not come this evening. Aunt Elizabeth & Grandmama & Ellen & Papa all watching at the window & Edith not watching on the floor.[416] I enclose 5.00 but am not willing to spend a penny, so never thought of buying a vest — Why will not my old one do for the winter as well as the old ones of all my countrymen who this year do certainly wear their old coats instead of buying new? [417] I enclose a letter for Margaret F. if you go to her conversation. I wrote it at Portland.[418]

Waldo.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, December 31, 1842 [419]

Concord, 31 Dec. 1842.

Dear Margaret

In reply to your kind inquiries, — I think I cannot come to town on Monday: I mean to leave home Tuesday morn$^{g}$ & probably take the cars for N. Y. the same P. M.[420] I go first to Baltimore where I am to speak twice, on the 7$^{th}$, & another night. I think to go to Washington, just to look in & see what's done in the Capitol, between my two speeches in B. On my return I shall stop a little in Philadelphia, & again in N. Y. but shall probably return home before I address the *Mercantile Librarians* there, in the end of February. I have in my portfolio the value of three pretty good lectures on New England, which may become five before they get spoken; say 1. Religion; 2. Agriculture

415. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Evidence cited below shows that the year was 1842. Dec. 23 of that year was the first Friday following the Dec. 21 of the letter to Margaret Fuller.

416. Edith, born Nov. 22, 1841, would doubtless have been "on the floor" in Dec., 1842.

417. The panic of 1837 had been followed by that of 1841, and numerous earlier letters tell of Emerson's financial difficulties resulting from failure to receive the dividends he counted on.

418. The reference is pretty clearly to the first letter of Dec. 21, 1842, which bears a Boston postmark dated, apparently, Dec. 23, though the second figure is blurred. For Margaret Fuller's conversations this winter, *cf.* Nov. 16, 1842.

419. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

420. A number of letters written early in 1843 record Emerson's extensive lecture tour.

& Trade; 3 Genius & Manners; 4 Recent Spiritual influences; 5. Climate, or Relations or Politics or Future or Miscellaneous, for always I must have a wallet for my orts. I have also an ethical discourse, a sort of *result* of 1842. which, if all Pennsylvania should rise and demand its delivery at a mass meeting, I might comply; otherwise, I may force it on the unwilling ears of nine or ten.

Tell Ellery that I received this morning his note & will attend to it immediately. Give my love to him — I wish it were an estate, or better I would we saw both I & he what that is which the world will have of him & he of the world It will not be long before that all reconciling work shall be happily reached. Meantime he is not idle but sows golden seed every day when he writes verses. I said very untruly to you lately — " not printable "; [421] for I have printed excellent verses of his, in the new Dial. I have your extra sheets of Veeshnoo & of Menu — ethnical Scriptures.[422] Pity tis to send you this little witted sheet, but it must go to say, Expect me not. I will write to you from Baltimore, probably, & tell you more. & I shall carry your verses thither for a text. Ever yours

Waldo. —

## To Abby Larkin Adams, Concord? *c.* 1842? [423]

My dear Abby,

I send you Goetz in three shapes, not knowing under which form the separate edition of it is printed — though the differences between the form in vol 8 and the second piece in vol 2 of the *Nach-*

421. In Dec. 12, 1842; but now Emerson was including six of Channing's poems in the January number.

422. Emerson had inserted some excerpts entitled " Veeshnoo Sarma " in *The Dial* for July, 1842. Thoreau's selections " The Laws of Menu " were printed in the same magazine for the following January. Later numbers included a series of " Ethnical Scriptures " chosen, it seems, by Thoreau and Emerson.

423. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The date *c.* 1842 is a conjecture based on very unsatisfactory data. Abby Adams was about nineteen years old at this time (*cf.* a note on Aug. 19? 1870) and so might well have been studying German texts of the sort here mentioned. The three forms of *Goetz* were probably the one contained in Vol. VIII of the Cotta edition of *Goethe's Werke*, 1827, and the two new versions in Vol. XLII (1832) of the same edition (Vol. II of *Goethe's nachgelassene Werke*). Emerson seems to have acquired the early volumes of the posthumous works in Aug., 1836 (*cf.* the letter of Aug. 8, 1836). He may have purchased the first forty volumes of the Cotta edition earlier. In the letter of Apr. 21 and 22, 1840, he said he had fifty-five volumes of Goethe and had contrived to read almost every one. A copy of *The Works of Flavius Josephus*, Philadelphia, 1829, is still in Emerson's house, at Concord; and his signature is in Vol. II.

*gelassene,* I believe, are only trivial. Perhaps one of your class may wish the one you do not use.

Mercy Whitcomb begged me to lend her Josephus.

Your affectionate servant,

R. W. E.

## To H. Pendleton, Concord? *c.* 1842?

[H. Pendleton, New York, June 15, 1843, thanks Emerson for his "obliging Letter" and the "beautiful extract" it contained, and says she is forwarding to him the three copies of a little literary undertaking of hers, one chapter of which was suggested by this extract.]

# 1843

## To Lidian Emerson, Philadelphia, January 6, 1843 [1]

United States Hotel
Philadelphia
Jan. 6, 1843

Dear Lidian,

I had a very good & pleasant passage to New York *via* Stonington. I found William well, at his office, & William Prichard I attended to my nearest errands & went home with William at 3 o'clock. The boys were all pictures of health & good nature & Susan is very well & very happy, – greatly comforted by the presence of a cousin of hers Miss Margaret Sheafe who takes care of the children. The pony I did not see, tell Mother, but heard much of his good & something of his formidable qualities, from Willie & Haven. I am to see him on my return. In the morning, they breakfast, every day, at 6½; and I came up to the city with William & then sped in all haste to the Phila. boat, which leaves N. Y. at 9, & by railroad chiefly, arrived here at 3, yesterday P. M. I went to see Furness [2] & we had hearty greetings old schoolmates & college mates and book mates as we have been. He had fine prints to show & fine books & good things to tell; and Nature & Time too had much to tell over him. For his pretty wife had grown to a portly matron, a tall William Henry of 15 or 16 years, two other boys, and a fine girl [3] studying German & other matters, took part in the talk, and my friend's hair has a little grey intermixed. I spent some hours with him, & this morning he has carried me to Sam Bradford, who was the same affectionate open-hearted man as boy; [4] & to Mrs Morrison whom a taste for thought & for the children of thought seems to isolate a little from the general

1. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

2. This meeting seems to have been important in reviving the old friendship. From this time the correspondence between the two men became more regular.

3. The second son was the Shakespearean editor, who was also editor of *Records of a Lifelong Friendship*. All members of the family to whom Emerson refers are named in *The Letters of Horace Howard Furness*, 1922, pp. xvi–xvii.

4. *Cf.* letters of 1816 ff.

stream of society here in her native city. I am to go to her house again tonight to hear music, Knoop, Mme de Goni,[5] &c. I have threatened them with Lectures on my return which they think adventurous, for they are much belectured & a much to be pitied people in that particular all their lectures being bad. Yet they inclined to think my chance not quite desperate. I sometimes do things to show that I am not afraid, & I encouraged them all I could, & intend to advertise my programme. I am very sorry to say that I did not have time in my very few hours in N. Y., timid about walking as I was, to get as far as Mary Ann W.'s[6] apothecary. I shall send back this day to William the address & directions. — I have made the most of my lameness all the way, yet cannot make any very bad case of it, with all my good will to interest Mamma. Tell her that Susan hoped that possibly she would come with me to her, & made the most affectionate inquiries and the friends I have seen here wish to know all about her. Your brother Charles in Boston interested himself in my excursion so far as to volunteer his good offices in writing me letters to his friends here & at Baltimore. Write to me at Baltimore whither I go tomorrow morn & give me a faithful account of your own good estate & that of the babes who neither cry nor fret at 300 miles distance. tis a wonderful perspective & improves all objects. Tell me how your purse holds out & from Baltimore, if you need it, I will send more money. Jas. Munroe & Co promised to send my acc$^{t}$ to Concord by mail in a week. I think you may keep it. Address me at Baltimore (Care of Charles Bradenaugh,[7] Mercantile Lib.y Association,) taking care to charge the letter on my account at Capt Stacy's.[8] So with kisses to Ellen dear & darling Edith, in all affection yours.

Waldo.

Open all letters & send such as you think fit; but after Saturday 14$^{th}$, direct to Phila.

Tell Henry that I had no time with Miss Peabody to recollect particulars, and he must ask her from me the first time Mr Lane or Mr Wright goes to town, to give Mr Lane a copy of the Dial as a subscriber

5. Knoop, a cellist, assisted by others, including Mme de Goni, on the guitar, was to appear at a public concert in Philadelphia on Jan. 9 (*The North American and Daily Advertiser*, Jan. 6, 1843).

6. See Jan. 6, 1843, to William Emerson.

7. That is, Bradenbaugh. The name is correctly given in later letters. *Cf. Matchett's Baltimore Director* of 1842.

8. John Stacy was postmaster at Concord, 1841–1845 (Albert Tolman, in *Memoirs of Members of the Social Circle*, 2d series, pp. 188–191).

& another as a contributor, and to send him H. D. T. an additional copy. Also if a copy can go to Wheeler without expense or at our expense I should be very glad.

## To William Emerson, Philadelphia, January 6, 1843 [9]

U S Hotel
[I]Philadelphia
6 Jan 1843[I]

Dear William,

[II]I had a very comfortable ride hither[II] at the end of my pellmell transportation from the Staten Islander to [III]the cabin of the Jersey Ferry boat and soon got snugly ensconced in the warm entrails of an argument on the Divine Decrees, with a thoroughbred Presbyterian clergyman,[III] and the theology of the Middle States looked turbid to muddiness. [IV]Bulfinch [10] was[IV] in these cars again, [V]but I had tasted him, & preferred this bear's meat which we can never get at home.[V] I found Furness at home yesterday P. M. & spent some very pleasant hours with my old friend. Today I have seen with him Sam Bradford, who is constancy itself in this changeable sphere, and who remembers you with much love; and Mr Edward Carey and his pictures [11] a man of taste & *virtu,* & Mrs Morrison a very intelligent & social lady, who has been once at my house in Concord, & to her house I am to go again tonight to hear music, Knoop, & Mme de Goni, &c.

They entertain without much horror my project of lectures, although they are lecture-ridden and very badly ridden. [VI]I can very well afford to set up this lottery, for I can never draw quite a blank: for though I wish money today, I wish experience always, and a good failure is always a good experience, which is mother of much new poetry & prose for me.[VI] So I think to stop on my return here.

But what set me now on writing to you is this. I was charged by Mary Ann Williams, the lame girl who came to N. Y. to be healed by Dr Gescheidt,[12] & who is at my house, to call at the Apothecary's 257

9. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–VI are in Cabot, II, 475, where the date is given as Jan. 8.

10. Perhaps Henry Bulfinch, Emerson's classmate in college.

11. Edward L. Carey, son of the noted publisher Mathew Carey, and at this time a member of the publishing firm of Carey & Hart, was a liberal patron of art. *Cf.* the letter of the same date to Elizabeth Hoar.

12. Anthony Gescheidt, physician, also on Broome St., according to *The New-*

Broome corner of Orchard St N. Y. and get 1 quart of oil, pay for it (telling him who it was for, & so paying a less price than richer patients,) have it packed & sent by Harnden to the Concord Stage office Boston to my address. Now can you & will you cause this to be done? I did not reckon on such short grace & space on Thursday, or I should have crowded this errand into Wednesday. — At the Battery Hotel, I left with the barkeeper a book which Delf, of Wiley & Putnam, had lent me, rolled up, & a shilling with it, for the porter, who shd. carry it thither.

My wrapper will remain there safely, I suppose, until my return. I am not likely to want it in these milder places. I find in my trunk in a copy of my Concord Centennial Oration long ago addressed to you, the [note][13] of Lidian to Susan which I supposed was in the box.

These are messages after the manner of Aunt Mary. but I am not always so slipshod Tomorrow morning I mean to go to Baltimore & shall be glad to hear from you there (Care of C. Bradenbaugh Merc. Liby Assoc) or anywhere and the picture of health & of happiness which the Island cottage exhibited is most pleasant & dear to yours ever,

Waldo.

## To Elizabeth Hoar, Philadelphia, January 6, 1843[14]

Philadelphia, 6 January 1843

Dear Elizabeth

My new purple scroll looks so fair & so dear that I cannot resist putting it in immediate use and trying whether the pens will write truly & well. Therefore you shall know that six hours of railroad have brought me hither from New York, and six hours tomorrow should carry me to Baltimore. In the steamboat from Stonington, I found Mr Cumming:[15] his wife was hidden in the ladies cabin. With him I had a long pleasant chat which shortened the night. He invited me to come next day to the Astor House & see his wife, but I had no

*York City and Co-Partnership Directory* for 1843–1844. Probably the Mary Ann Williams who appears here and in later letters of this year was the "brave worker" and patient sufferer who died at Brook Farm (Codman, pp. 90–91).

13. A fragment of the MS is missing and this word is conjectural. In the preceding paragraph "Thursday" has been written over "Wednesday," the first syllable of which is imperfectly canceled.

14. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

15. *Cf.* Sept. 16, 1836.

time. Philadelphia does not look to me so wondrous fair as it did when I was last here, fourteen years ago,[16] but its regularity & solid extent are very impressive. Then the manner in which water is brought into every chamber, & gas light into every sittingroom gives a new value to cities.[17] Gas light in your parlor is really very splendid, especially if you have pictures & prints to show as Furness had. It burns to its own music too, a little simmering which I concluded, on the whole, to like. — F. told that on the first night when his church was thus lighted, James Walker[18] preached for him & when the good Boanerges[19] ended his prayer, F. asked him if he did not hear this simmering. " Yes," said W., " I have been expecting, all the time, that it would blow up! " an expectation so oddly combining with the devotion of the prayers, that F. says he was forced to put his whole handkerchief into his mouth to preserve decorum. I saw this morning a beautiful statue which they called the Shell-girl, the figure of a girl with shells in her apron & holding one to her ear. She is all ear, or, if you look at the shells, you say; ' herself a shell.' It is by Steinhauser, a living German sculptor.[20] There were two other fine works by him in the same room. And for the first time I saw a little nearer into Wilkie's genius. I had never seen anything but prints of his pictures, — but Mr Carey possesses an excellent English water colour copy of one of his pictures, which fully explains his popularity — Every figure in it so obviously a study from Mr Wesson's bar-room. I saw too the originals of some very pretty pictures which, I was told, are engraved in " The Gift " for 1843.[21] Furness himself interests me not only by his lively easily kindled attachment to

16. Emerson was probaby thinking of his visit there in Mar., 1830; *cf.* letters of that time.

17. Philadelphia had had waterworks for many years and had been operating gasworks since 1836 (Scharf and Westcott, *History of Philadelphia,* 1884, I, 510 and 645).

18. Doubtless the professor of philosophy at Harvard, who later became president there.

19. *Mark,* 3:17.

20. A notice of Karl Steinhäuser appears in Singer, *Allgemeines Künstler-Lexicon,* 1901. David Wilkie, the Scotch genre-painter mentioned below, had died in 1841.

21. *The Gift* for 1843 was published by Carey & Hart and contained a number of engravings, by John Cheney and others, from such paintings as Henry Inman's " The News Boy," Thomas Sully's " The Lace Cap," and J. G. Chapman's " Rose Vernon." The " Publishers' Advertisement " does not mention Carey as one of the owners, and possibly Emerson alludes here to pictures which, like those I have named above, were lent by other owners. Incidentally, Poe's story " The Pit and the Pendulum " made its first appearance in *The Gift* for 1843.

many a speaker & many a book, to Lamb & Hazlitt & Leigh Hunt & many more, but also by his belief in his own book [22] which he took down & read & showed up & down to satisfy me how true & wonderful not the book (for he is very modest) but the facts were. I hear much good of Mrs Butler,[23] but she is still in London, though now shortly expected She taught Furness the Antony & Cleopatra of Shakspeare, and much more. Also Dr Channing & Mr Norton met at his house after they had parted in opinion, & my friend is hero worshipper enough to please Carlyle, so that I seem to have heard many fine things in the last few hours. Now that I have tried my pen & ink & paper in this gossiping letter, I will hope to send you something in another strain, from Baltimore: or, perhaps, the good Heaven means better by me, & will show me so many new facts & hold me so hard to them that I shall not be able soon again to weave any of my fine webs. I will not predetermine, but leave myself at liberty — only in the bonds of dear love, Your affectionate brother

Waldo.

## To Margaret Fuller, Baltimore, January 7 and 8, 1843 [24]

[1]Baltimore, 7 Jan. 1843 —

Dear Margaret,

I received in Boston your pacquet for William C [25] & the next morning left it with my brother in N. Y. I spent one night at Staten Island, and two nights in Philadelphia, and am here ready to attend high mass in the Cathedral tomorrow morning. In Philadelphia I had great pleasure in chatting with Furness for we had ten or a dozen years to go over & compare notes upon,[1] & the souls that are my joy & crown, as you know, have (several of them) come to me within that time. [11]And he is the happiest companion. Those are good companions — to whom we have the keys. How true & touching in the romance, is the saying,[26] "But you can never be to them Vich Ian Vohr," and each of us is an unsuppliable Vich Ian Vohr to somebody. Furness is my dear gossip, almost a gossip for the gods, there is such a repose of worth & honor in the man. He is a hero worshipper & so col-

22. Furness had published more than one religious book.
23. Frances Kemble Butler, the actress, was still the wife of Pierce Butler.
24. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–IV are in Cabot, II, 470–472.
25. William H. Channing, no doubt.
26. In the sixty-ninth chapter of Scott's *Waverley*.

lects the finest anecdotes and told very good stories of Mrs Butler, Dr Channing, &c. I meant to add, a few lines above, that the tie of schoolfellow & playmate from the nursery onward is the true clanship & key that cannot be given to another. At Mrs Morrison's, last night, I heard Knoop & the Senora de Goni,[27] – which was very good exercise. *Me satis exercuisti,* said the honest professor to the young Sam. Clarke when he wrangled[28] – and we are all glad to be turned into strings & finely & thoroughly played upon. But the guitar is a mean small voiced instrument, and but for the dignity that attaches to every *national* instrument, and its fine form, would not be tolerated, would it? Very hard work & very small cry, Senora. Sunday P. M. This morning I went to the Cathedral to hear mass with much content. It is so dignified to come where the priest is nothing, & the people nothing, and an idea for once excludes these impertinences. The chanting priest, the pictured walls, the lighted altar, the surpliced boys the swinging censer every whiff of which I inhaled, brought all Rome again to mind. And Rome can smell so far! It is a dear old church, the Roman I mean, & today I detest the Unitarians and Martin Luther and all the parliament of Barebones. We understand so well the joyful adhesion of the Winkelmans & Tiecks & Schlegels;[29] just as we sieze with joy the fine romance & toss the learned Heeren[30] out of the window; unhappily with the same sigh as belongs to the romance 'Ah! that one word of it were true!' One small element of new views has however got into the American Cathedral, namely, Pews; and after service I detected another, a *railroad,* which runs from one angle of the altar down into the broad aisle, for the occasional transportation of a pulpit. We are as good for that, as the French who pared apples at dinner with little guillotins.[II] But I am thoughtless to write to you now when presently I hope to go to Washington, and may see something. [III]In Baltimore although I have enquired as diligently as Herod the King, after holy children,[31] I have not yet heard of any in whom the spirit of the great gods dwelleth. And yet without doubt such are in every street. Travel-

27. See Jan. 6, 1843, to Lidian Emerson.

28. The story is told in *The Sermons of Samuel Clarke,* ed. Benjamin Hoadly, 5th ed., 1742, I, vi–vii.

29. Both Winckelmann and K. W. F. von Schlegel became Catholics. According to Hans Hartmann, *Kunst und Religion bei Wackenroder, Tieck und Solger,* 1916, p. 28, Tieck, though he developed a strong sympathy for Catholicism, did not become a convert.

30. *Cf.* Sept. 1, 1838, to Mary Moody Emerson.

31. *Matthew,* 2:16.

ling I always find instructive, but its lessons are of no sudden application. I cannot use them all in less than seven transmigrations of Indur,[32] hardly one of them in this present mortal & visible.[III] But the reason why I write to you now, is that you asked for my address. I shall be here only until Wednesday morn$^{g}$ 18$^{th}$; then probably at Philadelphia a week or two; in either place address me, without " Care &c "; if afterwards I stay in N. Y. as is probable, " Care of W. E. 64 Wall Street," Elizabeth H & I held good talk concerning you my dear friend just before I left home & agreed to set our saint very high, if we differed a little in the naming of of our sentiment. And when some where some how we are grand enough to shuffle off a part of our coil, I will hope to entertain you better than with a Journal.

[IV]Your friend

Waldo.[IV]

## To Lidian Emerson, Baltimore, January 8 and 9, 1843[33]

Barnums Hotel,
Baltimore, Sunday Night,
[1]8 Jan 1843[1]

Dear Lidian,

I wrote to you & to Elizabeth from Philadelphia,[34] & yesterday made an easy transit by railroad to this city, where I am very well lodged & well fed in what I believe Dickens called the best hotel in America.[35] The best feature in my journey is that the long & enforced rest of these railroad rides has cured my foot, though I still use it rather cautiously. [II]Today I heard high mass in the Cathedral here, & with great pleasure. It is well for my Protestantism that we have no Cathedral in Concord.[II] Abby Adams [III]& I should be confirmed in a fort-

32. I have found no Oriental source. *Cf. Journals,* VI, 419, where Emerson again writes " Indur," apparently for " Indra." The Shakespearean echo in the last sentence of the letter is of a line in *Hamlet,* III, i.

33. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–III are in Cabot, II, 472. Emerson had arrived early for the first of his two lectures in Baltimore. The *American & Commercial Daily Advertiser,* Jan. 10, 1843, announced that he would lecture on " New England " under the auspices of the Mercantile Library Association that evening; on the 12th the same paper praised the first lecture, and on the 17th it announced the second, on " Customs, Genius, and Trade of New England," to be delivered that evening.

34. Letters of Jan. 6, 1843.

35. In *American Notes,* chap. ix.

night.[36] The Unitarian church forgets that men are poets. Even Mr Frost [37] himself does not bear it in mind.[III] Here is today the mildest climate, we left the snow half way between N. Y & Phila. and here canary birds cages hang outside of the windows and myrtle trees or something looking very like myrtle grow in the open air in a neighboring yard. Monday 9th I have seen Mr Burnap,[38] Mr Dall, Brantz Mayer a young man who travelled with me in Italy [39] & writes in the "New World" about Mexico, & some other persons here, but not yet Solomon Corner.[40] If he does not look me up, I must, him. I cannot hear of any poets, mystics, or strong characters of any sort. Perhaps there is nothing very distinctive in the population for I learn that a very large proportion of the people in active professions are Yankees. Almost all the Unitarian society are so, and Bradenbaugh the President of the Merc. Libr Association, who is himself a native, says, that the people I shall address there, will almost all be Eastern, or of Eastern feeling. "Have you any libraries here?" — "None" — "Have you any poet?" — "Yes; Mr McJilton." [41] — "Who?" — "Mr McJilton." — Any scholar? — "None." Charles Carroll the Signer is dead, & Archbishop Carroll is dead, and there is no vision in the land. At Philadelphia, Furness promised to engage a hall & advertise my programme so I think to go thither at the week's end. And so tell me, kind wife, how is all with you at home? those two young things that are left there with you? How walks the gentlest Edie? how goes the affable Nelly? housewifely, talking by night? How fares my gracious mother? And how my sister dear? And Henry brave & good? And how did Charles Lane speak to the Lyceum? [42] And what letters have come for me? & what letters have you written to me? and have the good angels, or that more sombre Spirit that loves you so well, prevailed over your thought by night & by day? The Good Spirit is always nearest do not hearken to that Sad brother. With the good Louisa by your side, & all your helpful company, & the thin critical man removed so far away, I think of you as very placid,

36. *Cf.* Aug. 11, 1842.

37. The Unitarian minister at Concord frequently mentioned in the letters.

38. His ordination as minister at Baltimore is noted in Apr. 18, 1828.

39. *Cf.* the letter of Apr. 16 and 21, 1833. Mayer's "Letters from Mexico" appeared irregularly in *The New World*, New York, from Jan. 22 to June 11, 1842.

40. *Cf.* July 3, 1842, and Jan. 19, 1843, to Lidian Emerson.

41. John Nelson M'Jilton had published several volumes of poems.

42. The MS records of the Concord Lyceum, 1829–1859 (owned by the Concord Free Public Library): "Jan. 4th 1843 Lyceum met and heard a lecture from Mr. Charles Lane of England."

& making great progress in ' that work ' so renowned, & whereof I have often heard. You are to send me you know a financial letter reciting all the depths & straits of your beggary & the methods by which you have kept the regiment of creditors at bay, & what truces & treaties you have made & what is the latest day, on which, if succour do not first come, Coolidge Castle [43] must be surrendered & sacked. But if I wish my letter to go tomorrow morn, I must end it now sense & nonsense commending only my dear love & reverence to Mamma, & kisses to the babes, one to the larger & two to the less. Perhaps on Wednesday I shall go to Washington. Perhaps not. Yours with hearty affection

Waldo.

## To Lidian Emerson, Washington, January 12, 1843 [44]

Washington, 12 Jan. 1843
At Mrs Van Coble's, Four-& a-half Street.

Dear Lidian

I came from Baltimore hither yesterday morning in the most brilliant of days. The transit takes two hours & the approach to the Capitol adds some dignity to the flats & swamps through which the cars trundle. As soon as I had deposited my baggage at Gadsby's Hotel, I marched up to the Capitol & encountered an old acquaintance on entering the grounds, in Mr George Snelling [45] who instantly took me into his guidance brought me to Mr Saltonstall who passed us into what is called the " Ladies Gallery " of the House, then found and brought to me a Mr Giles Waldo [46] as a sure friend & between these two good men I was soon made acquainted with all the parts & spectacles of this great house the Rotunda the Senate chamber, the H. of R.; the Supreme Court Room (where a counsellor with no opposite counsel present, & no other person within the bar, was making his argu-

43. The Emerson home had earlier been known as the Coolidge house (July 27, 1835, to William Emerson).

44. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Of the members of the House mentioned in this letter, Leverett Saltonstall, J. Q. Adams, and Caleb Cushing were from Massachusetts; Horace Everett was from Vermont; and Joseph L. Tillinghast was from Rhode Island. Senators Calhoun and McDuffie were from South Carolina, Benton was from Missouri, and Crittenden was from Kentucky.

45. Perhaps George Henry Snelling, who graduated from Harvard in 1819 and who, according to the catalogue of Oct., 1820, was a resident law student during Emerson's senior year.

46. This was the first meeting between Emerson and the young man who appears frequently as his enthusiastic disciple in the letters of the next few years.

ment to the full Bench) the Library; the chamber where the newly invented electric Telegraph whereby any word which you write with a wire bound pen which makes one pole of the circuit will be instantly written by the pen at the other pole at the distance of thirty or thirty thousand miles, the wire running under ground or under water; and various other chambers of artists and of statists. In the Senate all the conspicuous persons were pointed out to me: Mr Calhoun spoke a few words, Mr Benton a good many, McDuffie a good " No," Mr Crittenden a short speech, &c. &c. In the House Mr Adams is the figure which draws every eye. but he said nothing. Mr Everett of Vermont spoke but Mr Cushing broke in with a stormy interruption which took my fancy greatly, for his voice is noble, fills the whole house, and the manner was of some angel of wrath. The house was far more dignified & decorous in its appearance & behaviour than I had looked for. — In the Gallery too, I found Fletcher Webster [47] whom I did not know, it is so long since I had seen him, & he is coming to see me. Mr Waldo carried me off to his boarding house to dine, & has now settled me in a good room here. After dinner we walked up *by* the Presidents House, (which means, in this good democratical country, not outside of the iron fence, but within the grounds, and through the piazza, up the steps at one end & down the steps at the other, looking in at the windows if you will.) A little son of the President's was walking on wooden stilts before the door — ; then to the Patent Office & to the General Post Office which is the most beautiful building here, very agreeable to my eyes. In the evening I went with Mr Snelling to the Rotunda to see the Statue of Washington [48] by torch light. Greenough is greatly dissatisfied with the bad light under which his work suffers and wished to make an experiment to see if it can be so illuminated by a sconce at night as to bring out the details of the statue. It was a great satisfaction to me — the whole spectacle. I spent a couple of hours here, in this grand area dimly lighted by a few lamps moving about the statue, with half a dozen persons whose shadows were colossal on the walls and every word that was spoken reverberated Greenoughs direction to his lamp holder " Higher, higher," sounded up into the dome & down again a better poem than Longfellow's " Excelsior." The statue itself greatly contents me I was afraid it would be feeble but it is not but reminds one of

47. Son of Daniel Webster, who was Secretary of State at this time.

48. *Cf.* May 16 and 17, 1833. The experiments in illuminating the statue are more fully recorded in Jan. 13, 1843.

Allston's Jeremiah [49] & of the Jupiter of Phidias about equally, in the attitude & draping. — More of this again Then afterwards we went to Mr Saltonstall's & saw Mrs Bayard [50] & her beautiful daughters of Delaware, & heard them sing with the harp. Then to Mrs Tillinghast's a very friendly lady of a very sensible husband. But I must stop I have yet no line from you. Is one this day arrived in Baltimore? Dear love to Mamma & to the babes & to Elizabeth, and write as fast as you can to me. My love to Henry tell him I find very good people here. Young Waldo is quite an intelligent agreeable person & *takes the Dial.* The air of Washington quite electric & the Capitol is a right noble building. In the Rotunda last night I was introduced to J. C. Calhoun. Yours, dear Lidian.

Waldo

## To Margaret Fuller, Washington, January 13, 1843 [51]

Washington, 13 January, 1843

Dear Margaret,

You shall have a word from your friend escaped from his village to the Capitol, if only that he may s'orienter in the fine place. I came hither day before yesterday from Baltimore, & fell instantly & softly on the kind offices of two or three young men who have shown me the best things. The Capitol deserves its name & singularly pleases by its mass, — in this country where we never have the satisfaction of seeing large buildings; satisfies too, by its commanding position, & fine entrances. The interior passages are inconveniently small from the doors to the Rotunda & from thence to the legislative chambers, but the Rotunda I admire. Night before last I went thither to see the Washington, which Greenough was endeavouring to show by torch light.[52] It was his private experiment merely to see if it were practicable to show it so, for now in the daylight it is a statue in a cave. The experiment did not turn out well: a sufficiently powerful light could not be shed on the whole of so great a figure but it must be shown part by part by removing the light, — which is not easy, as there are no fixtures to which the sconce could be attached excepting a standing pole which had been erected & rigged for the purpose. The statue is

49. *Cf.* Apr. 8, 1840. This painting is reproduced in Flagg, opposite p. 246.

50. Mary Carroll Bayard; her husband, Richard H. Bayard, was Senator from Delaware.

51. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

52. *Cf.* Jan. 12, 1843.

simple & grand, nobly draped below & nobler nude above, the right Washington head in its plain strength pretty well adhered to, the left arm resigning his sheathed sword, the right arm uplifted. Ill lighted as it is, I suppose this uplifted arm will not please, will not seem sufficiently motived. Greenough wishes to light the face that we may see the reason of the action. It happened that night that our sconce did not succeed very well for it soon set on fire the wooden case which held the lamps & was let down rapidly lamps melting & exploding & brilliant balls of light falling on the floor By the time it was fairly down it was a brilliant bonfire & it was necessary in order not to fill the rotunda (picture hung) with smoke to drag it out of the doors on to the piazza where it drew together a rabble from all parts. — Afterwards with a humbler contrivance the details of the figure which are of great beauty were successively brought out. — But the two hours I spent here were very pleasant. I sat on the stone floor in all parts of this grand area & watched the statue with its great limbs & the colossal shadows of the five or six persons who were moving about; the great height above, & the moonlight looking in at the sky light and the resonance of every word & footstep and the electric air of this place, the political centre of the continent made it a very fanciful & exhilarating spot — John C. Calhoun was one of the company. Greenough talks very well about his work. He is not confident he says that he has translated the public sentiment of this country for Washington into marble, but he is very sure of his own diligence & that what has been in his mind must sooner or later appear. I told him I had rather have it in this Rotunda, in the worst light, than any where else in the best: The genius of the place is omnipotent here; but he wishes a separate structure. But I have not written you what I would; I have been driven to the wall here with many sights & much company, & shall, I hope, have the more to tell you hereafter. I go to Baltimore Saturday P. M. Yours Waldo (over

Give my sure love to Ellery.

### To Lidian Emerson, Washington, January 14, 1843 [53]

Washington 14 Jan 1843
Sat. Afternoon —

Dear Lidian,

I am just on my departure for Baltimore. I have yet had no letters but hope to find some at B. I have been very happy here with

53. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

the good love & wit of Mr Waldo & the friendliness of other persons The Patent Office where the Exploring Expedition's treasures [54] are exposed is the best sight after the Capitol & will well reward another visit. A great multitude of persons of every kind of merit are here assembled Professor Espy amused me with storms [55] & inductive metaphysics —

But I am too late, so good bye with dearest love to you & the babes & Mother dear Waldo

## To Lidian Emerson, Baltimore, January 14, 1843 [56]

Barnum's Hotel, Baltimore

Dear Lidian,

Arrived here this Saturday Evening I find your two letters the Balt. letter & your own, & I lose no time in forwarding the above order [57] for $50.00, on the back of which you must write your name (& be careful to spell it as I have spelled it.) and Mr Cheney will pay it. I began at Washington this noon a letter to you which was interrupted by visitors & which I doubt not you will receive with this, in its fragmentary state. I believe I was about to tell you, mainly for Henry's information, that I had seen stones & sand & volcanic scoriae from the Antarctic Continent, and all manner of corals sponges and 'Neptune's goblets,' and all manner of arms trinkets implements, & natural & artificial curiosities from the Feejees and Tonga & Navigators' & Sandwich Islands, from Japan & from Peru brought home by our recent Explorers: [58] the most invigorating facts by far, coming from our friends the Feejees, tattooed heads & baked heads, and headdresses more striking than beautiful, and Feejee pillows simpler than any devised by Mr Alcott or Mr Lane, and Japan books & novels of Siam. One of the principal things I saw was a pair of blind fishes from the Mam-

54. See the letter of the same date written in Baltimore.

55. James Pollard Espy had published *The Philosophy of Storms*, 1841.

56. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The Baltimore postmark is dated Jan. 15, the 14th fell on Saturday, and this letter was obviously written on the same day with the note dated Washington, Jan. 14, 1843. Emerson was to deliver his second lecture at Baltimore on the 17th (see a note on Jan. 8 and 9, 1843).

57. This was doubtless written at the top of the first page, and the upper third of the leaf is now lacking.

58. Emerson had printed in *The Dial* for July, 1842 (III, 132–133), the news of Wilkes's arrival at New York. Wilkes's report on progress in the long task of arranging the collections in the Patent Office appeared in the Senate documents for the 28th Congress, 1st Session; and his *Narrative of the United States Exploring Expedition* was published in five volumes at Philadelphia in 1849.

moth Cave in Kentucky. As they swim in dark waters, they have no need of eyes & have none; so says the Donor. One of the curators was good enough not only to take the bottle in which they are suspended in spirits, out of the case, but to draw the cork to which they are fastened by threads out of the bottle. The fish is about 6 inches long, and I could not find the smallest perforation, or intimation of an eye. A noble building this,[59] and every day becoming richer in its treasures. All American curiosities are here from Oregon & from Patagonia. Washington contains noble buildings and the view of the Capitol from all parts of the city & far better the view from the Capitol not only of all the City, but far into the the Continent of which it is the political centre is charming, these delight me. Washington is well worth a visit of much more leisure than I have given it I think I shall go thither again some of these winters. Should you not like it of all things. Nelly will approve it with all her heart although I own that for the ladies here it seems to me a homeless place a kind of hotel the whole town & very ill accommodated hotel showy & comfortless, a pic nic party in winter, for purposes of exhibition chiefly I wished to write to Elizabeth from W. but had no time sufficiently quiet. Give my love to Mother, & know you both that my foot is entirely well: Yet I have not put on my boots. I am glad Mr Lane serves Concord & himself so well.[60] I heartily hope Henry has recovered from bronchitis & all its kind. I have seen today very good mesmeric experiments for when a man is relieved of inflammatory rheumatism one would [61] care to criticise the theory of the cure. More money when I have more. Write me of Edith & all the good news & bid Ellen be a good girl.

Is Ellen a good girl? Papa thinks of her in Bal-ti-more.[62]
Remember me to Louisa & all the household. Tomorrow, to the Catholic Church once more. Your affectionate

Waldo.

### To Giles Waldo, Baltimore, January 16? 1843

[Waldo, Washington, Jan. 16, 1843, asks for a letter. Waldo, Jan. 18, 1843, remarks that he and Emerson wrote to each other at the same time and speaks of this exchange as the beginning of their correspondence. In Jan. 20, 1843,

59. Even Dickens, in the eighth chapter of *American Notes*, had called the Patent Office an "elegant structure."

60. The letter of Jan. 8 and 9, 1843, mentions his lecture.

61. Doubtless Emerson intended to add "not."

62. The two sentences for Ellen were printed out by Emerson.

to Caroline Sturgis, Emerson says he wrote a few lines to Waldo from Baltimore; and in the letter of the same date to his wife, he remarks upon his "fiery" friendship with that youth, who writes to him "every day or two"; and many letters from Waldo, including those of Jan. 20, Jan. 23, Jan. 25, and Jan. 26, 1843, are extant. The exact dates of other letters Emerson wrote to Waldo at this time are not known to me; but Waldo to William A. Tappan, Washington, Jan. 27, 1843, states that he has had "a number of letters from Emerson since he left here." With the most generous allowance for Waldo's use of an indefinite term, this could not mean less than two; and I have dated a second letter Jan. *c.* 26? That date would fit Waldo's statement that the letter of Feb.? 1? following was the first for nearly a week.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Philadelphia, January 19, 1843 [63]

19 Janʸ 1843
Phila

Dear Lidian,

I use the occasion of Mr Mackay's return to send you $25. I left Baltimore yesterday morning; and my second visit to that city was pleasant enough. Young Bradenbaugh is a good youth & grows on acquaintance. Solomon Corner [64] came to see me but unfortunately was interrupted by others in his communications — & I saw him no more. I feel assured that he must have called when I was abroad, for we had agreed that we must meet again. Just at the close of my second lecture, that is, just on parting, I was introduced to several persons who showed such signs that I was sorry not to have seen them earlier. Mr Burnap came & spent a couple of hours with me & we came a little nearer to humanity & its needs than usual. Several intelligent gentlemen were very civil & friendly to me & I could easily have known the city better had I not gone to Washington. By staying even even one day longer I might have seen Mr Gilmer's fine collection [65] of paintings — He is the owner of Greenough's Medora.[66] But I was inexorable. — Yet to little purpose. My affairs in Philadelphia have not much advanced When I was here Furness kindly volunteered to do whatever

63. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

64. *Cf.* Jan. 8 and 9, 1843, for both Corner and Burnap.

65. Probably Emerson meant the collection of Robert Gilmor, a Baltimore millionaire who was noted for his public services. He was doubtless the "Gilmore" of Baltimore who, according to the "Publishers' Advertisement" in *The Gift* for 1843, owned J. G. Chapman's painting "Rose Vernon" (*cf.* a note on Jan. 6, 1843, to Elizabeth Hoar).

66. Emerson may have seen this in Greenough's studio in Florence (letter of Apr. 21, 1833).

was needful to engage a hall & see to advertising & the like whilst I should be at B. & would communicate with me if necessary. In B. Mr Bradenbaugh undertook to bring me all letters that should come to my address — I wondered Furness did not write but was assured there were none — Now for a bit of demonology. Yesterday Morn as I was preparing to leave Barnum's Hotel I took up a *piece* of a newspaper & my eye rested on my own name. I looked up to the head of the column & found it was a list of letters in the Post Office and *two* marked against my name. There was just time before the cars started to run down to the Office & there I found Furness's letter dated 10th [67] & one from Margaret Fuller.[68] The good clerk at the office had forgotten Mr Bradenbaugh's direction, as these had no address to his care. For want of my attention to this letter I found on my arrival in Phila. the bookseller whom Furness had engaged to attend to the matter in much perplexity & I cannot read my first lecture so soon by two or three days as otherwise I should. Furness is himself at N. Y. where he read a lecture last night [69] & will return hither today. Meantime I have letters here to a few persons, which I shall deliver, & so see the fair geometrical town. I found Mr Mackay at the breakfast table this morning & learned that his sister is here. Write bravely to me here all the news of yourself of Mother & the children, of Elizabeth, and of Henry.

## To William Emerson, Philadelphia, January 19, 1843 [70]

January 19, 1843,
U. S. Hotel. Philadelphia

Dear William,

I arrived here last eve from Baltimore and think to stay here and read lectures tho' at this moment it is a little uncertain. For Furness, who kindly volunteered to act for me in my absence at Baltimore, wrote to me then, but his letter did not reach me (fault of my Mr Bradenbaugh or rather of a Post Office clerk) & so the necessary preliminaries were not settled, & they know or fancy here that Phila.

67. Not in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship.*

68. I have not seen this.

69. According to *The Evening Post,* Jan. 17, 1843, Furness was to lecture on "Characteristics of Genius" that evening, not on the 18th. The evidence of the two letters dated Jan. 19 and of the letter dated Jan. 20 tends to show that all three were correctly dated.

70. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. This letter bears a "City Despatch" mark stamped with the date Jan. 20 and was, according to William Emerson's endorsement, received in New York on that day.

requires the longest premonitory symptoms & signs of such a disease as Course of Lectures, " Ten days at least," says Bookseller Pennington.[71] If it be so I shall not stay. Furness is to return today from N. Y. & I shall quickly decide.

At Washington I had a very pleasant visit I fell instantly on the kind offices of George Snelling & a Mr Waldo, to whom he introduced me —, a faithful subscriber to the Dial, & these proved golden seneschals, & carried me every where except into the President's House.[72] Had I staid another day, I had opened that also. But that a traveller has no time & that I have had many letters to send to Boston & Concord, you should have had tidings of me ere this. Give my love to Susan, and to the jubilant trio.

Yours affectionately
Waldo.

Washington is an electrical city enough, full of brilliant points, but a homeless place, I should think, for the women. They appear as at the Plymouth " Forefathers' Ball," very splendid people from all parts, but jammed into a little town which cannot give them a comfortable lodging & hardly a chair at the table. I was at Gadsby's & at Mr Saltonstall's & at Mr Tillinghasts & at various other places, and they were all alike too full, and like living in a lanthorn or in a porter's lodge. But the Capitol pleases me well, east, west, north, south, above, below, chambers, library, rotunda, piazza, grounds. If Washington should ever grow to be a great city the outlook from the capitol will be unsurpassed in the world. Now at sunset I seemed to look westward far into the heart of the continent from this commanding position

But the Patent Office chiefly drew me, for there the Exploring Expedition are unboxing & arranging their curiosities of nature & art, and this fine collection atones for many chagrins which the spectacle of Government is apt to breed. — I remember that Brantz Mayer,[73] whom I have seen a good deal in Baltimore, & who is secretary of legation to Mexico, when I said I hoped Mr Leggett might get his own, — said that though it had been feared that the claimants would be underpaid, yet he might be sure to have the award dollar for dollar & 8 per cent interest from the time it was made. — Of course you know so much, but as he said that I " might tell you so ex cathedra," I set it down.

71. See Feb. 2, 1843, to James Munroe & Co.
72. *Cf.* Jan. 12, 1843.
73. See Jan. 8 and 9, 1843.

## To Lidian Emerson, Philadelphia, January 20, 1843 [74]

[1]Philadelphia 20 Jan. 1843

Dear Lidian[1]

This morning I drew three prizes at the Post Office in the shape of letters from you, & Elizabeth, & Margaret F. Welcome are all the tidings you send me and Nelly's letter [75] is a pearl of price. and a shower of blessings on Edith creeping or erect. And thanks to my dear Mother for her lively interest in the poor foot which was long ago quite sound. I wrote you yesterday a letter which you are not to receive quite yet, for it contains a little money & is to go by Mr Mackay. I am not to read my first lecture here until Monday evening, then two more in the same week, & two in the next week.[76] I have found here some kind friends who in Mr Furness's absence have charged themselves with the details of my affair. I am entreated, tell Mother, by Sam[l] Bradford to take up my quarters in his house, also by Mr Furness also even by Mrs Morrison but not knowing how to go to the three, I have come to your friend Mrs Prevost's.[77] where I have a very good chamber. Much the most romantic incident of my journey thus far is my fiery friendship with Giles Waldo of Washington, from whom I

74. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–VI are in Cabot, II, 474–475. The Philadelphia postmark is dated Jan. 21.

75. Part of Lidian Emerson, Jan. 15 and 16, 1843, is written as from Ellen and signed in printed letters by her. The "pearl of price" is doubtless from *Matthew*, 13:46.

76. The five lectures of the Philadelphia course were announced in the *Spirit of the Times* on the days of delivery: Jan. 23, only the general title, "New England," announced in advance, but the same paper stated two days later that the lecture had been principally on the derivation of the people of New England; 25, "The Trade of New England"; 28, only the general title announced; 30, lecture announced without specific title, but the same paper of two days later shows the topic was "Recent Literary and Spiritual Influences Felt in New England"; Feb. 1, "Tendencies." Comment in the press was mostly favorable. "His manner," said the *Spirit of the Times* for Jan. 25, "seems at first sight cold and embarrassed, but he at times warms into genuine eloquence." The first lecture, according to *The North American and Daily Advertiser* of Jan. 24, won the close attention of the audience to this New Englander "about the middle height" with "mild and thoughtful countenance" and voice which was "very good, being deep and clear." Emerson seems to have appropriately recalled his own indebtedness to Quaker doctrine; he "paid a compliment," says the same paper, "to the Society of Friends, in some of whose spiritual views he seems to participate." He wrote his own comments on his reception in the letter of Jan. 25, 1843, to his wife.

77. *McElroy's Philadelphia Directory* for 1843 lists a Mrs. M. Prevost's boarding house at 284 Walnut St. The letter of this date to Caroline Sturgis gives the address as Chestnut St. – possibly the copyist's error.

receive every day or two, the lovingest letters. I, the old man! — [II]I find that advantage as before, in wandering so far from home that I become acquainted with " the Indians who have the Spirit."[II] And at Washington, at Baltimore & here, I am introduced to wakeful or waking persons. The bookseller here informs me that there is the liveliest discussion of religious questions here, among all classes, engineers, lawyers, merchants, produced by the Oxford tracts,[78] by French philosophy, & Brownson: And Strauss [79] is now to be printed in penny numbers. You tell me or Elizabeth does of a letter from Henry — I have received none, & shall look for it every day. All that you say of him I heartily hear. Henry Hedge rejoices in his *Prometheus,*[80] and believes the Dial a valuable *book,* however it fare as a journal. At Baltimore I saw Mr Morrison,[81] Henry's classmate who sent his respects to him. He seemed to be thriving there as the President & Professors in his single person of the " University of Maryland." By the look of his pupils & lecture room, I should call it a *School.* Do not fail to tell me every particular concerning Henry's lecture when that comes [82] — and the brightest star of the winter shed its clear beams on that night! Elizabeth says, you tell me of Moses Prichard & of Mr O'Sullivan,[83] — but I know nothing of either of them. [III]I have seen no winter since I left New York, but the finest October weather prevails. The bland speech & courtly manners of these people too is as kindly a contrast to our more selfish manners. If I ask my way in the street, there is sure to be some gracefulness in conveying the information, and the service of the negroes in the hotels is always courteous. It looks[III] to me [IV]as if it would be a long time before I get home, & I am getting tired of my pic nic. I learn something all the time, but I write nothing and as usual vow each week that I will not play Signor Blitz [84] again. So you must find out, dear Wife, how to starve gracefully — you & I & all of us another year. Very refresh-

78. Newman's *Tracts for the Times* had been published from 1833 to 1841.

79. Probably his life of Jesus is meant.

80. Thoreau's " new and careful translation," " The Prometheus Bound," appeared in *The Dial* for Jan., 1843.

81. Horace Morison, a classmate of Thoreau's at Harvard, appears as president, professor, and instructor in *A Prospectus of the Collegiate Department of the University of Maryland,* 1841.

82. The MS records of the Concord Lyceum (in the Concord Free Public Library) show that Thoreau lectured there on Feb. 8, 1843.

83. See Feb. 12, 1843, to Margaret Fuller.

84. According to the *Spirit of the Times,* Jan. 6, 1843, a Signor Blitz and a Dr. Valentine were then entertaining Philadelphians with " grand " performances and

ing it is to me to know that I have a good home[IV] & so much truth & honor therein, which Elizabeth heartily praises in words that warmed me. [V]So peace be with you & joy![V] and give my love to Mother & kisses to Ellen & Edith.

I shall write to Elizabeth; and to Henry when I get his letter. [VI]Yours Waldo.[VI]

I sent you from Baltimore a letter containing an order for $50.[85] which I hope you have received. I wish as soon as I send more, you would ask Edmund Hosmer for his account, & pay on it what you can.

### To Caroline Sturgis, Philadelphia, January 20, 1843[86]

At Mrs Prevost's 284 Chestnut St.

x x In the Rotunda of the Capitol, in the organic heart, that is, of our fair continent, my companion brought to me a youth of kindest & gentlest manners & of a fine person, who told me he had wished to see me more than any other person in the country x x x we had the happiest communication for nearly four days x x At Baltimore I wrote a few lines to him[87] x x & presently received the warmest note *written at the same hour* from him. Yesterday here in Phil.[a] I had a second letter rejoicing in this coincidence & a proper love letter x x x Did friendship ever keep people awake o' nights? x x x Some people here are interested in my picture-speeches, & it is settled that I am to stay here ten days x x x

### To Elizabeth Hoar, Philadelphia, January 21, 1843[88]

Philadelphia 21 Jan[y] 1843

Dear Elizabeth

Your letter which I received yesterday, was heartily welcome – the voice of a dear friend, – & only rightly to be answered

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with a view of "THE MERMAID, which is exciting the curiosity of the public." And one learns from the newspapers that as late as 1851 the indefatigable Signor was still reappearing in Philadelphia, offering "grand" performances afternoons and evenings, humorous scenes, dialogues in ventriloquism, and an exhibition of learned canary birds. In later letters written during the lecture campaign of 1843, Emerson uses the Signor as the symbol of the eloquent advertiser or popular mountebank.

85. One of the letters of Jan. 14, 1843.

86. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is an incomplete copy made by Cabot, who has indicated the place, date, and person addressed.

87. Jan. 16? 1843.

88. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

in noble numbers; but as I have not Ellery's gift at this hour, I must use the trivial prose, & give you copper for gold. I sent yesterday to Lidian some account of my journeys & fortunes,[89] & have this morning given to Mr Mackay a further account in a letter to L.[90] enclosing a specimen too precious for any but your own eyes and the dear ones at home, of my Washington romance, but I rolled up my letter in such speed at last when I found Mr M. was going, that I had no time to add fit comment, and you must read indulgently. This morning, I have visited Lucretia Mott, who has just returned from Washington, where she spoke on Sunday at the Unitarian Chapel; [91] & forty Members of Congress were present; many of them slaveholders. My correspondent G. W. writes that it was the rumble of an earthquake, — the sensation that attended the speech, & that no man would have said so much & come away alive. I like her very well, yet she is not quite enough an abstractionist for me, and her will is more illuminated than her mind. She too is a cousin of Mary Rotch.[92] Mary Rotch's father must have been Father Abraham himself, for every quaker body is her cousin. I shall go to the Cherry Street Meeting and hear Lucretia speak, if I can. She blames Mary Rotch for not letting her light shine, — not the vice of Americans generally. Me too she taxed with living out of the world, & I was not much flattered that her interest in me respected my rejection of an ordinance sometime somewhere. Also yesterday, for Philadelphian ideas, like love, do creep where they cannot go, I was challenged on the subject of the Lord's Supper, and with great slowness & pain was forced to recollect the grounds of my dissent in that particular.[93] You may be sure I was very tardy with my texts — Where, where was Lidian then? But do not ask me dearest sister for anything better than these details which I gather as I go on. Travelling, like labor, has no thoughts. Cars & taverns yield no poetry: Let us hope it is the sowing

89. Pretty clearly the letter to her dated Jan. 20, which, however, bears a postmark of Jan. 21.

90. Apparently Jan. 19, 1843, to Lidian Emerson, which had been kept back to be carried by Mackay. Emerson must have inclosed with it a letter from Giles Waldo as a specimen of his "Washington romance."

91. The *Daily National Intelligencer,* Washington, Jan. 14, 1843, had announced: "Lucretia Mott, from Philadelphia, will attend Friends' Meeting in this city on Sunday morning next, at 11 o'clock, and at the Unitarian Church at 7 in the evening." She wrote some notice of these meetings to a friend on Feb. 14, 1843 (*James and Lucretia Mott,* ed. Anna D. Hallowell, 1884, pp. 237–238). Giles Waldo, Washington, Jan. 16, 1843, gave Emerson the account to which he refers.

92. See Mar. 28, 1847, to Mary Rotch.

93. Emerson had never cared to argue about the matter; *cf.* Oct. 8, 1838.

of the seed: and really I believe in a certain Ulyssean result, — of which I see the creeping increments. But at times the prodigal waste of days & of social rectitude (shall I say) or of right social position, seems that species of self sacrifice which is not to be forgiven. I have found a kind of amends in the Zeal with which a few persons welcomed me as a sort of missionary; & better, whenever I have arrived at a full manly & pungent statement; — (*that* for the time clears heart & brain;) — best of all in the conversation of a friend, for then suddenly the heaven opens & receives you body & soul. Does it happen to you as to me, that when you leave home & travel, the days become dreamy & the world & life unreal? I grudge this January to the Philistines of the road & to the Barbarians. Then when I have gladdening letters from home & from all my homes, I feel that you have prophesied of me, and have not taken the poverties of your actual friend, but have generously loved his promise, and I also will not take by the throat these poor debtors of travel-days, these postillion hours, but will await in good hope their late accruing wisdom. Please Heaven, there shall be no repudiation of the debt! I write letters in these times in all directions; [94] to W. E., to M. F., even to C. S., & one lies on the table to S. G. W. So many as an excuse that each is no better. Cheered by your love your loving brother

Waldo.

### To Samuel Gray Ward, Philadelphia, January 24, 1843

[Printed in *Letters from Ralph Waldo Emerson to a Friend,* pp. 46–49. A copy in Cabot's hand (owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL) includes nearly all of the printed text. For "You are born and bred in the world," Cabot's copy has "You are a Corinthian, born & bred in the world"; and there are some other minor differences.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Philadelphia, January 25, 1843 [95]

Philadelphia, 25 Jan.

Dear Lidian,

Your letters come slow though the last was full, & deserved better answers doubtless than I have sent you. For I am carrying on a voluminous correspondence, and writing or compiling lectures & visiting people across the miles of the endless squares of this city. Lu-

94. *Cf.* Jan. 19, 1843, to William Emerson; Jan. 13, to Margaret Fuller; Jan. 20, to Caroline Sturgis; and Jan. 24 (possibly written as a rough draft earlier), to Ward.

95. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Evidence cited below shows that the year is 1843.

cretia Mott [96] is the best person I see here. I have called at her house, then dined there yesterday & today heard her speak at the Quaker Meeting She is the handsomest of women and a tutelar & beneficent genius of her church here; so lovely, so liberal, so refining, I do not wonder that they are too proud of her & too much in awe of her to spare her, though they suspect her faith. But tonight I have read my second lecture,[97] & I suppose it is time to tell you how I fare. Why well enough in the good affection of the young & the intellectual and that special parish of mine the religious infidels, — but the monstrous city of Phila. our hammer makes but a small dent therein. The first evening I thought the audience very small, perhaps 200 but they told me it was made of some of their best people This night the audience was considerably increased, possibly there were 300; And they listen intelligently enough, nay declare that they are delighted. But though I shall thus have the opportunity of getting a little better acquainted with a good many of my countrymen, I doubt I am not in the way of paying my debts pecuniary, which I dimly call to mind, was one of my wife's reasons for sending me forth into this remote field. Yet I must go on in good hope & in decorous performance until a week from tonight. Then on Thursday I shall go to N. Y, & tomorrow [98] I must write to William to tell him Signor Blitz [99] is coming. It is really true that Mr Knoop [100] & I are rivals here at this time & do sadly distract the inclinations of some of the best families. But the dear wife & the dear Mother & the children dear, how do they spend these mild days? Have you had my letter by Mr Mackay? [101] Tell Mother that Sam. Bradford & I have renewed our young relations. he seems to be very contented & to do very well in all ways. I dined today with Furness, who behaves most magnanimously to me & about me, as he is magnanimous. Lucretia Mott & James her husband come to lecture & the brave woman today in Quaker Meeting congratulated her brethren & sisters on the Lyceum & Lecture room as affording such opportunities for culture &c.; & this because on Sunday Ev.[g] last, at the same meeting, a brother warned all Friends against going to hear certain Lecturers.

96. *Cf.* Jan. 21, 1843.

97. On "The Trade of New England" (see a note on Jan. 20, 1843, to Lidian Emerson).

98. He actually wrote this news to his brother under date of Jan. 25.

99. *Cf.* Jan. 20, 1843, to Lidian Emerson.

100. See Jan. 6, 1843, to Lidian.

101. Letter of Jan. 19, 1843, to Lidian.

Write me all that befals you & interests you & of the babes. Where is Henry's letter that I heard of, & how is he. I remember you, & you all with thankfulness. & Ellen, & the peerless Edith!

Waldo.

I did not have any opportunity to finish my letter which went by Mr M. but sent with it one of my new companions [102] at Washington. Since then I have a better letter from him. Have J. Munroe & Co sent their account? If so can you or can Henry decipher the *result* of it whether the balance is *for me* & if so, what? Write again, if you have it, the name of the Providence correspondent. Was it *Daniel* or *Damnell?* [103] In excellent health & in great affection yours W

## To William Emerson, Philadelphia, January 25, 1843 [104]

Philadelphia 25 Jan$^{y}$

Dear William

I have this day received a letter from the Committee of the N. Y. Berean Institute inviting me to read my course on N. England before their society [105] & they write the " Terms " thus.

" The Committee promise you an average audience of 1000 persons, per evening, more or less; & after the net cost of advertising, church hire, &c which will amount at most to but $15. per night, they propose to give you one half of the clear proceeds of each lecture, — x x x x "

(There are two words at the close, which I do not make out.)

Mr Greeley, to whom they refer me for an account of the Society,[106] kindly writes me that " they ought to advertise in 8 principal papers, pay all expenses, & divide the gross receipts (& not the expenses) equally with you."

I should like better to have the details of the matter taken out of my

102. See a note on Jan. 21, 1843.

103. Lidian Emerson, Jan. 30, 1843, stated that the Providence letter was from Thomas L. Dunnell. Emerson probably wrote to Dunnell about this time, and the letter of Jan. 4, 1844, to him seems to indicate that there had then been several exchanges.

104. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. William Emerson endorsed the year 1843, and other evidence shows that date is correct.

105. *Cf.* letters of Feb., 1843.

106. Probably Emerson wrote to Greeley about this time, but I have no other evidence.

hands than to do them myself or put them on personal friends. But I do not even understand the value of this offer or what the attendance of 1000 persons promises me. Will you not then let me refer them to you for an answer. They can explain to you what amount their arrangement will probably pay for each lecture, and you shall answer for me Yea or Nay as you think it expedient. I think I ought to receive not less than 50.00 for each lecture and I make five in the course. But if the times say I shall not have so much, I submit. If they say I shall have more, I accept.

If you think it best that I should not read to the B. I.; then can you not put me into the hands of Delf or some other bookseller whom Greeley would name, who will take the trouble off your hands that I gave you last year. The facts then are these. I shall come to N. Y on Thursday 2 Febʸ, and should like forthwith to read my course, calling them, Lectures on New England: on the Descent, Religion, Trade, Manners, Genius, & recent Spiritual features of the Inhabitants of N. England. Five Lectures. (to be read in ten days)

3 evenings in one week 2 in the next

These are all my facts. If on any account you cannot answer for me, throw it back again on me. Meantime I shall refer the Committee whose address is — S. H. Stuart 180 Pearl St — to you as my attorney, & will so write them immediately.[107] I will tell you all my Phila. story when I come

Yours ever

Waldo.

I think you should not quote Mr Greeley to the Committee without his leave. as he writes to me as my friend, whilst he is a member of the Society.

### To Samuel Gray Ward, Philadelphia, January 26, 1843

[MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Partly printed in Cabot, II, 473–474. The version printed in *Letters from Ralph Waldo Emerson to a Friend*, pp. 50–52, includes all of Cabot's excerpt but omits the salutation, "My dear Sam," and two long passages. In the MS the second paragraph begins with these sentences, omitted in the 1899 version:

"But for your letter — I heartily rejoice that the Poems are in such forwardness, and I do not wish to lose my privilege of partnership-before-the-fact of

107. Probably Emerson wrote such a letter, which I have not seen. *The New-York City and Co-partnership Directory* for 1843–1844 lists Sidney H. Stuart, auctioneer, 180 Pearl St.

printing. I stay here now until Thursday Morning of next week. Then I shall be at N. Y. probably for ten days, for I am already in treaty with sundry persons who wish me to read my stories there. Can you not, Will you not send the Book itself, the Golden Book, (by Harnden) to William Emerson, Esq. 64 Wall Street, for me? I will give it all the sight that is in my eyes both of love & of criticism; & shall be enriched & refreshed thereby, and so my love waits on Ellery & on you."

And the final paragraph, entirely omitted by Norton, is:

"Tell Anna with my joy that she exists that I saw her brother Abraham unexpectedly here and live in the hope to see him again, but I cannot remember where he lives & I did not think to give him my address. I have seen Lucretia Mott who is a noble woman & Clement Biddle is a sensible man. Thomas Fisher knows somewhat of climate & Dr Milkenny of books & various other good men there are. Yours."

The "Golden Book" was apparently the MS of William Ellery Channing's volume of poems, soon to be published. *Cf.* the letter of Jan. 31 and Feb. 2, 1843.]

### To Giles Waldo, Philadelphia? January *c.* 26? 1843

[*Cf.* the notes on the letters of Jan. 16? and Feb.? 1? 1843.]

### To Ellen Emerson, Philadelphia? January *c.* 27? 1843

[Mentioned in Feb. 1, 1843.]

### To William Emerson, Philadelphia, January 31, 1843[108]

Philadelphia 31 Jan.

Dear William,

Thanks for the agreeable settlement of the Lecture affair, and, I think, you may depend on me for Thursday night,[109] & advertise so.

In great haste,
With great love,
Waldo E.

You do not tell me why I should go to Mr Field's,[110] so I will not go thither until I recall his name by coming to see you. So thank him for his hospitality: I think I will go first to the Carlton House.[111]

P. S. If I do not pay for this letter charge it to me as well as your last.

108. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. William Emerson endorsed the year 1843, which agrees with other evidence.

109. *Cf.* Jan. 25, 1843, to William Emerson.

110. *Cf.* Feb. 12, 1843, to Margaret Fuller.

111. *Cf.* the second letter of Feb. 2, 1843, to William Emerson.

## To Margaret Fuller, Philadelphia, January 31, and New York, February 2, 1843 [112]

Philadelphia, Jan 31

Dear Margaret, born for my benefactress, your letters [113] are benefits. Whatever comes to me from a friend looks unpayable. It ought not. If the earth draws an apple, the apple draws the earth, and they meet at *their* middle point — My usual procrastinations have attended me here, so that two Lectures have had to be put together immediately before their two days; if not the bricks made, yet, at least, the Roman cement. Therefore your letter has lain unanswered, much against my will. I *accept* this travelling, & I suppose it does me as much good as exercise taken against one's will. It is always instructive to see people in heaps or groups, or, shall I say more properly, *in streams,* — they are so pictorial, & illustrate laws better. I see many persons, if that is seeing which consists in being introduced to them, exchanging compliments to Pennsylvania & Massachusetts, & rapidly ascertaining that in the present quadratures of our respective orbs we have no light to spare to each other. Into domestic or strict personal relations, I do not come with any but my young Washington phœnix, Giles Waldo. I should do so, if I remained a little longer, for I grow fast in Philadelphia & receive many expressions of warm interest in " these views." and I think the right way to practise this new profession of the Lecture, with effect, would be to come at leisure into such a metropolis as this, and read a pretty long series of connected discourses. I found here an old friend in a Mr Hunt,[114] whom you once saw at my house, & who is as good as bread & water to me. So young Elwyn, though young no longer, but young when I have seen him before, is very good company. His wife is a sister of Pierce Butler.[115] He reminds me twenty times of Ellery. Yet this seems very plain that one should never allow himself to stand sponsor for an opinion, it spoils your relation to men so quickly. It is assumed in all companies that you think so & so, you who at that very moment wish to fly in the face of just *that* way of thinking.

112. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Cambridge, and the New York postmark is dated Feb. 3.

113. Apparently more than one letter from Margaret Fuller to Emerson in January of this year has been lost.

114. Emerson's former pupil, Benjamin P. Hunt, who appears in earlier letters.

115. Dr. Alfred L. Elwyn had married Mary Middleton, a daughter of Dr. James Mease and sister of the Pierce Butler who married Fanny Kemble, the actress. The brother had changed his name from Mease to Butler, the name of his maternal grandfather. (Scharf and Westcott, I, 820, and II, 1462.)

2 Feb.

New York. The sheet must have two dates. I will try that it shall not need three. I admire the merchants; I think they shame the scholars They understand & do their work greatly better than these do theirs. They take up & consume a great deal more vital force, and the conversations of the hotels are much better exhibitions of manly power than any that I hear in libraries. I admire their manners and their docility: so many scholars are made of buckram in mind as well as body, & these men, I mean the good of the class, are ductile ample liberal natures. I read today in the cars Landor's Tasso Dialogue in Blackwood: [116] it is very good. I think him more remarkable for Fancy, than any living writer. Carlyle much more Imaginative At Phila. I had several very satisfactory interviews with Lucretia Mott & with Mary Cox. When I gave the latter cards to my Lectures, she said " she & her sister would come, *But* they were both a little inclined to speak in public." I told her that was fair, & I should be happy to hear them. Well at the end of my last lecture, one of the ladies rose as the audience were dispersing & gave us a good Quaker sermon.[117] The larger part of the audience stood still immediately & heard it through, in a manner which I thought highly creditable to the company. Farewell my kindest friend! Waldo.

Love to Ellery, whose poems I am promised here.[118] and to Charles N.[119] if you see him.

## To Lidian Emerson, Philadelphia, February 1, 1843 [120]

Philadelphia February 1. 1843

Dear Lidian,

I have been so hard at work these few days in preparing my lectures that I have had no time to reply to your letter so generous & so true to what is best in my wife. Such thoughts so deep & pure, enrich the reader & the writer, and the world is better for them. I was sad that I had no time to say even ' May you be happy.' Tomorrow I go to N. Y. where William has already engaged me to a Berean Society for Five Lectures.[121] But tonight, just as I prepare to go hence, comes an

116. " Tasso and Cornelia " was printed in *Blackwood's* for Jan., 1843.
117. *Cf.* Feb. 1, 1843.
118. See Jan. 26, 1843.
119. Newcomb.
120. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.
121. See Feb. 7, 1843.

invitation from the Mercantile Lib.y Society, to ask me to speak to them on Friday Evening; [122] and if I do, I must return hither, of course, Friday morn., to return to N. Y. again Saturday morn. They will pay me a just fee for my transits. And so blessings on the dear little ones whose deeds & beauty made the theme of your letter & I rejoice in all the details. I hunger to see them. I have been abroad long enough. Yet it is useful to me many ways, more needful to me than to people who live less privately. Furness has been magnanimous & loving to me in all these days. I have seen the best Quakers here & some very good ones. Tonight when my Lecture was done (Sarah) ? Cox arose & exhorted the people to forsake their sins.[123] I listened immediately, & the majority of the audience kept their places (they had risen) & heard her to the end respectfully, though she spoke ten minutes. Lucretia Mott I have seen much and she is quite beautiful to me.

Benjamin Hunt is as refreshing as he was in earlier days and then William D. Kelley [124] a young lawyer here who is a great democrat & was Brownson's friend & patron here as far as lectures are concerned, has undertaken for dear love the whole matter of my lectures & with Mr Scholefield an older lover of men has made my cause his own. I could not have done without them: & yet though they have not yet made their Report of the Treasury to me, they do not promise me more than say $20. per lecture. for times are hard in Philadelphia. Write to me as fast as you can to the care of William in N. Y. I received with great contentment Henry's excellent letter [125] but what kept me from writing to you kept me from him. And when the shuttle is back again at N. Y. it may turn to a pen. Dear love to Mother with my reverence, & the best prayers I have: and honor to all who are in the house: and love to Elizabeth I need not write. Farewell, dear Wife.

Waldo. –

I have had a letter written to Ellen [126] lying on the table for some days but it seems to need a less rude conveyance than the mail.

122. See the first letter of Feb. 2 following.

123. *Cf.* the letter of Jan. 31 and Feb. 2, 1843.

124. Kelly, according to *McElroy's Philadelphia Directory for 1843*, which also lists a John Scholefield, collector. In an unpublished entry in Emerson's diary for about this date the second name is given in full and the first is spelled as in the present letter (typescript *Journals*).

125. Probably of Jan. 24, 1843 (*The Writings*, VI, 50–53).

126. Letter of Jan. *c.* 27? 1843.

### To Giles Waldo, Philadelphia? February? 1? 1843

[Waldo, Washington, Jan. 31, 1843, says he looks eagerly for letters. Waldo, Feb. 2, acknowledges a letter from Emerson received that evening and thanks him for an invitation to Concord. Waldo to William A. Tappan, Feb. 2 and 3, reports that he has had a letter from Emerson, the first for nearly a week. Apparently Emerson wrote to Waldo again before the middle of the month, but Waldo's letters to him on Feb. 6, 9, 10, 12, 17, and 21 afford no definite proof. It is clear, however, that Emerson made no attempt to keep pace with his too enthusiastic correspondent.]

### To William Emerson, New York, February 2, 1843 [127]

Dear William,

I am sorry that I cannot come & see you this night; but I came on the strength of your letter & of the announcement in the Tribune of yesterday; [128] and I had promised in answer to your letter to be here: and now I go back to Phila. tomorrow, to read a lecture in the evening [129] which was forced upon me just as I came away & will come & see you probably on Saturday: though I hoped my second speech would have been then. See the evils of talking across a hundred miles for things that are to be done suddenly I will try another time to commence the conversation in season. Love to all of you from yours affectionately

R. Waldo E.

Thursday, 2 Feb.

### To James Munroe and Company, New York, February 2, 1843 [130]

New York, Feb. 2, 1843.

James Munroe & Co

Gentlemen,

I find several persons in Philadelphia who desire me to see that my little books should be put into the shops here for

127. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The year 1843 in the endorsement is obviously correct.

128. The *New-York Daily Tribune*, Feb. 1, 1843, announced that Emerson's Berean course would begin on Feb. 2, but the same paper for Feb. 2 noted the postponement to the 7th.

129. The *Tribune* for Feb. 7, 1843, stated that Emerson gave his closing lecture in Philadelphia on the preceding Friday to a large audience.

130. MS owned by Marietta College Library; ph. in CUL.

sale. Mr John Pennington, Bookseller, is very willing & desirous to receive them, *on sale.* I wish you would send to him 50 copies of the "Essays," and, say, Ten or Twenty copies of "Nature," & as many copies of the "Orations," at Dartmouth, & at Waterville, & at Cambridge.

My wife sends me no tidings of your "Account." I doubt not however, that you have sent it, & that I shall find it at Concord.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

## To William Emerson, New York, February 2, 1843 [131]

Dear William,

Please to send these enclosed letters [132] to Boston by the first private opportunity you happen to have. The world will go on, if they should not. From my chamber at the Carlton House, lone, & far from Staten Island & its well beloved friends. I think this ev.g that if, as I purpose, I return hither on Sat. P. M. I will then take the 4 o/c boat to Staten Island, & pass Sunday with you and I will go down to the *boat office,* on my arrival, so please leave any directions with the clerk *there:* but do not you stay for so uncertain a waif.

Thursday night Waldo –

## To Abel Adams, New York, February 6, 1843 [133]

New York, Feb. 6, 1843 –

My dear Sir,

I fear it is already some days past the date of my note to Mr Snelling's office: [134] but I must give you the trouble to pay my interest there and it may be that my cheque overwritten [135] for $35.00 on Gilbert & Sons does not quite cover the debt which I believe is 34.50; & interest may have accrued. In that case you will please make a note of any balance due to you. – I believe I promised Mrs A. on leaving

131. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. William Emerson endorsed the date Feb. 2, 1843, and a City Despatch postmark is dated Feb. 3.

132. Both the letter of Jan. 31 and Feb. 2 and that of Feb. 1, 1843, are postmarked New York, Feb. 3, and, though not sent as suggested, may be the ones meant.

133. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

134. Pretty obviously the N. G. Snelling of Aug. 6, 1843.

135. The upper third of the first leaf, which doubtless contained a check, has been torn away.

Boston that I I would send you some account of my movements southward. And I beg you to assure her that the lame limb which moved her ready sympathy was cured before I reached Baltimore that I had a very pleasant visit in that city and a much more pleasant & exciting visit in Washington where I spent four days & saw & heard many notable persons; & some very kind & some very wise ones. Nor was the aspect nor were the manners of the legislators nearly so savage as I had been led to look for: but with a great deal of personal force of all kinds was a good deal of decorum. In Philadelphia I found my old friends & many new ones and multiplied my acquaintances very fast. Saturday I arrived in this city, and spent yesterday at Staten Island where William's family are in fine health – three noble boys – and tomorrow evening I read my first lecture before the Berean Society which is to be followed by four more.[136] So that a week from next Thursday eve. I shall probably end my engagement here & go northward. With kindest remembrances to Mrs Adams & to Abby – and to Mrs Larkin,[137] Yours affectionately

R. W. Emerson

To John Milton Cheney, New York? February? *c.* 7? 1843

[Mentioned in Feb. 7, 1843.]

To Lidian Emerson, New York, February 7, 1843[138]

Carlton House:
New York, Feb 7 – 1843

Dear Lidian

Two long faithful letters I have from you, which have put me in possession of all the domestic facts & made me quite content until noon today, when, if your purpose held good, & the steamer kept its course last night, I am to have a pacquet by Harnden. I am sorry to find I have been a little hasty in the spending of my money. I sent $200.00 to Mr Cheney to pay some of my debt to the Concord Bank; & $35.00 to Mr Adams to pay a debt of interest in Boston, & these remittances have emptied my purse. And now I shall have to wait prob-

136. See Feb. 7, 1843.

137. Possibly Mary Larkin, widow of Ebenezer, according to *Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1843.

138. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

ably a few days, before I can send more. I make my first experiment here tonight,[139] in a kind of partnership with a " Berean " Society: but the terms, as I understand them better, I admire the less. You must hold off all claimants for a little time & I will either earn some more pence, or, if not, borrow some for the present distress.

My acquaintance with Philadelphia brightened until the end, & my second trip thither was on many accounts pleasant. Here in N. Y. I have already a new friend who gives me great hope. He is a son of Lewis Tappan,[140] and Giles Waldo's friend. He spent two or three hours with me last night, until I forgot everything but Montaigne & Michel Angelo. New letters he brought me from Waldo, which are full of life & heart I shall count my journey a good one & the months well spent if each month makes me so bright a gift as one of these noble youths. At Staten Island, I found them all well & happy, & rejoicing in a letter from Mother, which made me glad also. I have not asked Mother to write to me because I know she does not like to multiply her scriptures unnecessarily, but she needs not that I should assure her how dearly her coldly writing son values the tidings of her welfare and the short but significant assurances of her tenderness which he gleans from every Concord letter.

— 64 *Wall Street.*[141] William has money to lend me, so I enclose a cheque for $25. on the back of which you must write your name *as it is written* on front. And Ellen is a dear little girl for her letter [142] & Edith for her play. And thank Henry for his goodness to Edi[th][143] and his letter is yet to be written Give my love to Elizabeth and let her have no more headache I pray

Yours affectionately
Waldo

139. The story of the unfortunate Berean course is told in the *New-York Daily Tribune*, Feb. 7–10, 1843. The opening lecture, on origins of the New England character (Feb. 7), was, said the reporter, eloquent; but the audience was small because the place — the Universalist Church, it seems — was not very accessible and the weather was bad. After the second lecture, " Trade," was delivered on the 9th, Emerson was persuaded to commence the course afresh in a more convenient place.

140. Lewis Tappan's " mer. agency " is listed in *The New-York City and Co-partnership Directory* for 1843–1844. William Aspinwall Tappan, Lewis's son, is mentioned in later letters. He married Emerson's friend Caroline Sturgis.

141. William Emerson's office.

142. Lidian Emerson, Feb. 1 and 3, 1843, was partly written for Ellen, whose printed signature was affixed. Edith, said the same letter, was listening to Thoreau's music box.

143. The MS is slightly torn.

## To Henry David Thoreau, New York, February 9? 10, and 11, 1843

[MS owned by Mr. Alwin J. Scheuer; ph. in CUL. Printed in *The Atlantic*, LXIX, 581–582 (May, 1892), where the "Carlton House" of the heading is mentioned but not included in the text and a few words are omitted or changed.]

## To Lidian Emerson, New York, February 11 and 12, 1843 [144]

Carlton House
N. York 11 Feb.[y]

Dear Lidian,

My friend at Washington [145] writes what you call love letters at short intervals if only to say that he is still my friend. But consider that he is a great deal *younger* than I; else, should I, no doubt, write a sheet a day, to assure you of my dear regard, and that I am the same aspiring all-loving person whom you have known so long, although I had no new events to record. I grieve very much that I should have annoyed you, & Mamma also, by not writing: yet to ten days I plead *Not guilty*. Never could be such chasm. Well if I am distracted by many cords or cordlets, you at least have concentrated yourself & written me good & true accounts. Beautiful tidings you give me of the beautiful babe, and an excellent saying of Ellen. I have great desire as you may suppose to be safe at home again but it would be cowardly, so I shall try hard to do what I came to do, & there are many alleviations to the exile & the annoyances, in the excitements of this street life. I see Mr James [146] a good deal & William Tappan who is a nonpareil, & today I dined with Mr Bellows, Channing, & Waterston,[147] & tomorrow I should dine with Mr Field & Miss Sedgwick.[148] Yesterday was it, or the day before, — tell Mama, I dined with Woodward Haven & had a pleasant time, and I have had a good visit to the Sedgwicks. Tomorrow morn[g]. I go to Brooklyn to see & hear W. H. Channing at his little church: Tappan is to go with me. I cannot tell you how much

144. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Evidence cited below fixes the year.
145. Giles Waldo.
146. For the first meeting with Henry James, Sr., see Mar. 5, 1842.
147. H. W. Bellows, W. H. Channing, and R. C. Waterston were all preachers. In Feb. 12, 1843, to Margaret Fuller, Emerson tells of hearing a sermon by Channing, whose brief irregular ministry in New York and Brooklyn had begun in 1842 (O. B. Frothingham, *Memoir of William Henry Channing*, 1886, pp. 184–185).
148. See Feb. 12, 1843, to Margaret Fuller.

this youth contents me. Also various slighter forms pass & repass half seen before my dull eyes. Edward Palmer & Mrs Black [149] I have seen & saints & spectres. The city itself is an animating spectacle with its beautiful fountain in the Park which in this cold weather mounts 20 or 25 feet & in warmer 30 or 40.[150] I cannot look at it enough as I pass. By moonlight & in sunshine & in summer as they say it has finer finest aspects & moods. It says to the foreigner "We have a great deal of water in America, & you shall have a river of it in the air for a sample." It says to the newsboy who roars "Morning Herald, New Era, Tribune, Sun, Aurora," all day to every passenger through the Park, "I am Kuhleborn: [151] I am the Great Power of Water come from distant mountains to tell you, dear little cit, that you are a mountaineer too, and it is the love of home that allures your eyes to me." Sunday. Last eve. I held my first Séance in the Society Liby [152] with good success enough, they said. William E. & Mr Forbes [153] do as last year the *Signor Blitz*-ing [154] or rather the *Donner & blitzen* part & make as good thunder as could be desired for so modest a principal performer. I have not seen Sarah Ripley but have sent her cards.

And now, a message — I think you must send me my big Manuscript (quarto) marked "Selvage" and my Lecture on "Demonology" which lies in one of my cabinet drawers and they must come to care of W. E. by Harnden forthwith And now I will go cipher & see if I can return home before my lectures to the Merc. Lib.y Farewell Dear Wife.

Waldo.

149. For Rebecca Black, see Mar. 5, 1842.

150. According to *The Great Metropolis*, 1845, p. 59, the fountain in "The Park" (now City Hall Park) could, when the water was thrown in a single stream, reach a height of seventy feet.

151. Kühleborn, in Fouqué's *Undine*.

152. Emerson's five lectures on New England, now begun anew after the false start under the auspices of the Bereans, were read at the Society Library on Feb. 11, 15, 17, 20, and 22 (*The Evening Post* and the *New-York Daily Tribune*, Feb. 11–22). Through the first four nights, at least, the audience increased steadily. The lectures were acclaimed as the best "literary essays" of the season. In the letter of Feb. 23 following, Emerson comments on the inadequacy of the newspaper summaries of his lectures in New York.

153. Philip J. Forbes was librarian of the New York Society Library (*The New-York City and Co-partnership Directory, for 1843 & 1844*).

154. *Cf.* Jan. 20, 1843, to Lidian Emerson.

## To Margaret Fuller, New York, February 12, 1843 [155]

New York 12 Feb 1843 –
Sunday Eve
Carlton House

Dear Margaret,

I have not lost any of your letters [156] though I have had so many correspondents lately that I must sometimes appear faithless to the most faithful of all. A distracted frittered life is this of travelling – many excitements – but they are grimaces often.

I have much thrust upon me – Fourierists wish to indoctrinate me & give me "short notes on commerce" of 14 sheets to read. Quakers give me printed pamphlets to read; intelligent separatists wish to read me a few MS. pages that I may "take their idea." Mrs Black & other saints wish me to come to their "little meeting" just a couple of hours: My dear brother would have me spend all the odd nights down at Staten Island 9 miles distant. Dining with Miss Sedgwick, Mr Bellows, & other friends, and calls across the enormous distances of this city make shrewd inroads into the days, and excursions by night to Brooklyn & Newark &c to read lectures [157] consume the dark hours. Dear Concord will have letters, & fire-new friends will have letters. I am not therefore able to make yet a proper reply to Sam Ward & Ellery – though I keep the tuneful Manuscript [158] close by me. & have read all the pieces. Tell Ellery so, with my love. I have heard William C.[159] speak today at his hall at Brooklyn. and had very good interview with him the last week. He is magnanimous, true, apprehensive, heroic. and his behaviour is purely beautiful: at once flowing & self commanded. Today I dined with Mr O'Sullivan [160] at Mr Field's,[161] but the man is politico-

155. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

156. But apparently several have since been lost; part of one dated Feb. 7, 1843, is printed in *Memoirs*, Boston, I, 284.

157. The *New-York Daily Tribune*, Feb. 14, 1843, announces Emerson's lecture of that evening on "The Genius and Character of the New-England People" before the Franklin Society in South Brooklyn. There seems to have been no lecture at Newark till Mar. 1 (*cf.* the letter of Mar. 1 and 3 following).

158. The manuscript of William Ellery Channing's poems is mentioned in Jan. 26, and in Jan. 31 and Feb. 2, 1843.

159. See a note on Feb. 11 and 12, 1843.

160. John L. O'Sullivan was editor of *The United States Magazine, and Democratic Review* (Mott, p. 678). Acquaintance with him stood Emerson in good stead when he tried, a little later, to win an audience for Channing's poems (*cf.* Aug. 7 following).

161. Perhaps David Dudley Field, the New York jurist, later known for his initiative in developing an international code.

literary and has too close an eye to immediate objects. *Washington* is supposed in every line of the "Demo. Review." Or do I mistake him altogether. But my dear Margaret I have immediate objects if Mr O Sullivan has not, & wish to know how the Dial of April shall indicate the state of the heavens if it be hid all February & March under New York dust. What can you & will you do for it? Can you not now speak to the august shade of our departed New England Priest? [162] Or if not yet what topic will you choose. Something you must give me if you have strength to permit it, if you too are distracted & fretted by miscellanies, write me immediately that you will not. I think I have no lecture to print in that number but must write that literary miscellany about many new books which I was brewing when you were at Concord, & which I read in part into these new praelections here. If therefore you have notices of new books "The Neighbors" [163] or Ernest,[164] Paracelsus,[165] or any other I shall like to have them & weave them in. I have writ a little on the two last. — I wish you to think of any Muse foreign or domestic who has strains available to us.

I am very happy in N. Y in my intercourse with young Tappan who is the most tranquil and wise of all the Round Table. Not less than twelve Paladins can we have nor less than twelve holy & magical women, finders all of the Sangreal. Shall we not have at this rate of increase to publish an annual catalogue of Friends the Proven & the Candidates — That division for the weakeyed like me, but for you magnetic who see all the futurities of relation in the first glance, there shall be but one class. Goodbye O proven friend!

Your facile

Waldo E

## To Henry David Thoreau, New York, February 12, 1843

[Printed in *The Atlantic,* LXIX, 582 (May, 1892). A MS copy in Cabot's hand, presumably made from the original, is owned by RWEMA (ph. in CUL).]

162. *Cf.* Oct. 19, 1842. Emerson himself had written a notice of Dr. Channing's death for *The Dial* of Jan., 1843; but he apparently wished a more extensive appraisal of the notable leader, which, however, never appeared in his quarterly.

163. Mary Howitt's translation of Fredrika Bremer's *The Neighbours* was noticed in *The Dial* for the following April.

164. Probably Emerson means *Ernest, or Political Regeneration,* described in *The Quarterly Review,* London, for Dec., 1839, as a poem in twelve books of lawless verse, "the Chartist epic."

165. Browning's poem was noticed by Emerson himself in *The Dial* for Apr., 1843.

### To William Emerson, New York, February 18, 1843[166]

Subject " New England: Recent literary & spiritual influences."

Yes; if you like that as well I will carry & read to Susan the best of the First Lecture.

But here is Ellens & Lidian's letters for my kind sister.

### To William Emerson, New York, February 21, 1843[167]

R W E's Fifth Lecture on N. England:

Results & Tendencies

Sorry to have omitted this word last night & given my young friend this walk

Thanks.

R W E

### To Margaret Fuller, New York, February 23, 1843[168]

Carlton House 1843
N. Y. 23 Feb$^{y}$

Dear Margaret,

Your letter munificent as Rhea & Ceres came two days ago & first the Lascia mi pensare & next the absorption of all minutes into this gurgital lecture which was just now prepared (though that is a gentle word for a small maelstrom) & ended last night, forbade even a line to accept your bountiful offer. ' A *third!* ' I read with wonder. " A third of the book, & will begin to print immediately "! [169] Great is thy love & power, and I know I shall know thy star across the universe by the energy of its fires, whose spending the Universe shall gladly repair. Henry Thoreau, to whom I had written to ask aid from

166. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The date Feb. 18, 1843, is endorsed. The *New-York Daily Tribune* of Feb. 20 advertised Emerson's subject for that evening as here given.

167. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. William Emerson endorsed the date Feb. 21, 1843; and this note is written, on the same sheet, below a note from him bearing the date Feb. 21 and asking what subject to announce tomorrow. The *New-York Daily Tribune* of Feb. 22 advertises for that evening the subject given here.

168. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. It is possible that the year was added to the heading long after the letter was written; but it is at any rate correct.

169. Apparently from a letter I have not seen in which Margaret Fuller promised aid for the April number of *The Dial*. She did, in fact, write nearly a fourth of that number, and more than a third of the contents for July following.

Lane,[170] writes me that Lane has supplied him with a paper on "Alcotts Convers. on Gospels" which by the authority confided to him H. T. concludes to print. I shall instruct him to let the printer who is to go on with it immediately send you a duplicate of the last sheet in sign that he is waiting for you then you shall fill 20 or 30 pages, if you will & can, without killing, or, which is tantamount, untuning you & precluding the glad & flowing tasks of the Spring days. And when you have done, let the printer send to H. D. T. a duplicate of the sheet, in token. I am to read a lecture to the Merc. Lib.y Soc? on the 7 March.[171] On the 8th I mean to return from exile. The exile answers some of my purposes and some it does not, but I doubt not, it serves good purposes for me that I did not forecast. I am like those of my nation who travel with pots & pans, solder & rivets in this country and the clink clink of their little hammer in each village does not permit them to see the picturesque or the varieties of life with quite that triumphant freedom which befits the lesson. I have written (what I call written) three of my lectures (of Five) at Phila. & here; to a great loss of good time. I have lost just so much of Babylon & Euphrates Artaxerxes and Roxana. Somebody offered to show me ship yards; in vain. and somebody to show me how rag merchants live in N. Y. by extorting rags from the gutter, and the rag-Rialto where these congregate & traffic after the deed; in vain. But I see & learn much that I look not for. And my Wm Tappan is a joyful acquaintance to run against for the first time a lonely beautiful brooding youth who sits at a desk six hours of the day in some brokerage or other but carries no desk in his head or heart but wise elastic youth only.

I have sent you no newspaper simply because the report is so ruinous to what truth & proportion is in my stories, that I cannot read them. Odious, odious. It is just as if I had read a poem and the N Y Herald should then say, Mr E. *said thus & so,* from stupidity to stupidity, & from fatuity to fatuity. I have sometimes heard that some of my auditors like the reports better than the speech. Farewell dear Margaret friend & benefactress of Waldo E.

I see O Sullivan & his handsome sister Mrs Langtree & Bryant & the Sedgwicks & Park Godwin & Eames & many more. And William Channing who is a princely person.

170. In Feb. 12, 1843, to Thoreau. Charles Lane's long paper on Alcott was the first in *The Dial* for the following April.

171. See Feb. 26 to Lidian Emerson.

## To Lidian Emerson, Staten Island, February 26, 1843 [172]

Staten Island, 26 Feb. 1843

Dear Lidian,

I left N. Y. on Friday P. M. & came down hither as a first step homeward. Here I am getting ready my speech for Tuesday Eve. to the Merchants' Apprentices [173] and am enjoying the bountiful hospitality of my brother & sister. I beg you to know that as far as money results go, my lecturing in N. Y. has had no success The price of tickets is one half the price of last year & the expenses of the hall &c are the same as last year: then my entire defeat in the Berean [174] attempt and the greater length of my stay in the city have much enlarged my other expenses so that my payment for my work is as I counted something less than $9.00 per lecture the modestest compensation I ever received except once in Billerica. But a Brooklyn Lyceum has done something towards paying my bill at the Carlton House & the Merc. Lib[y] are to pay me $50. for each lecture.[175] When I come home, therefore, having lost much time, I shall go to the old resource of borrowing money. Yet I have had a good exile, good spectacles, good acquaintances and at least two good friends and how can I count my time lost. The greatest loss, (the absence from home being set aside) is that the journal does not grow, neither are the tarrying chapters which should have been continued & ended, if I had been at home, at all forwarded. Then perhaps I do not draw half the good from my city life & new faces that a readier socialist or man of the world would do, always excepting the *Sons of the Morning*,[176] whom I meet; those know I full well how to speak to & how to enjoy. But now I must pack my trunk & hive my honey, & if it is little & if there be chips & sands in it, I must — look for a remoter success of which this drudgery shall be one element — (or, to keep my figure,) must distil my honey. But now, dear Wife, a main

172. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

173. The *New-York Daily Tribune*, Feb. 28, 1843, announces Emerson's "Domestic Life" to be read that evening under the auspices of the Mercantile Library Association at the Broadway Tabernacle. The same paper for Mar. 7 advertises his second and last lecture in the same course, for that evening, on "Politics," and, on the following day, gives a summary, with flattering comment on the deep attention and evident delight of his audiences.

174. See Feb. 7, 1843.

175. William Emerson, Mar. 11, 1843 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson): "Inclosed I send you a check on the Mass. Bank for One Hundred Ten Dollars. The Hundred is from the Mer. Lib[y] Assoc[n] . . . & the Ten from South Brooklyn . . ."

176. Perhaps from Reginald Heber's hymn for Epiphany.

end of writing now is to say to Henry Thoreau that I am greatly contented with Mr Lane's good fruits for the Dial & contented that his article on Mr A's book [177] should go to the press immediately I authorizing & entreating H. T. to make the verbal corrections he mentions. And when he has come to the end of the article let the printer send a duplicate of the last proof to Margaret Fuller, who will then go on directly with 20 or 30 pages more & send her last sheet again to H T in sign that she has ended. Mr Clarke will send me a ' letter concerning Keats " [178] and I have a bit of Fourierism with me [179] and a paper from Mrs Child,[180] & hope so to make out a good number. at last.

And now give my love & honour to my dear Mother and kiss my daughters two whom I trust to see quickly & give my love to my sister Elizabeth whom I daily honour and thank Henry for his generous letters and farewell, dear Wife, tonight Waldo

Susan & William send kindest remembrances & love to you all to Mother yourself E. & the children. Susan wishes that you shd. come & go home with me; but I, not. I must devise how to send you 10.00

## To Thomas Carlyle, Staten Island, February 26, 1843 [181]

Staten Island
New York, 26 Feby 1843

My dear Carlyle,

My friend & relative by marriage, Rev. Orville Dewey, desires to visit you. It gives me pleasure to introduce to you a social & liberal man, who is dearly valued by the best Society in New York, where he is an Unitarian clergyman. You will find him well acquainted with the most noted of our people, as I believe he already is with many of the most eminent of yours.

Yours affectionately,
R. W. Emerson.

T. Carlyle, Esq.

177. See Feb. 23, 1843.

178. " George Keats," signed " J. F. C.," appeared in the April number, where it was followed by John Keats's remarks on Milton, written on the fly-leaf of *Paradise Lost*. A few years earlier, Clarke, as editor of *The Western Messenger*, had received from George Keats, at Louisville, some hitherto unpublished writings of John Keats that had given the little frontier magazine a title to fame.

179. Apparently not published, unless it was an early version of Elizabeth Peabody's " Fourierism," which appeared in the number for Apr., 1844.

180. " What is Beauty? " was printed in the April number.

181. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Dewey, it seems, had been abroad since Oct., 1841. For his relation to Emerson, see the note on *c.* 1817.

### To Orville Dewey, Staten Island? February? 26? 1843

[Mentioned in Mar. 5 and 6, 1843. It probably inclosed the letter of Feb. 26, 1843, to Carlyle.]

### To Giles Waldo, New York? February 28, 1843

[Waldo, Washington, Apr. 7, 1843, shows this letter was received, after a mysterious delay, on Apr. 7.]

### To Elizabeth Hoar, New York, March 1, and Staten Island, March 3, 1843[182]

N. York. Battery
Wednesday —

Dear Elizabeth,

The days of my wandering are nearly ended, and I shall be heartily glad to come home. I have been wrapped for a few days in the deep repose of Staten Island & the Clove,[183] until yesterday P. M. I came hither again. Repose, no that is a word of great pretension, and even in the Clove road needs a reposer. We are very seldom entitled to use such grand words, we skipping buzzing experimenters. After Necessity, which teaches us all the best lessons, I think Friendship the learnedest professor of repose. If one is born to a good sister Elizabeth, for example, in remembering her or in the good hope of meeting her he is ashamed of heat & hurry. I should be a statue in my manners & behaviour if I lived with people who had any eternity in their eyes. But Lidian & I are of the twenty-four-hours party. And now too I am not in the Clove, but on the Battery; in this city whose growth is as by storm & violence. In this last year of extreme depression, as it is called, nine hundred houses have been built in N. Y. which would make a pretty town elsewhere. And when I hear the words 'hard times,' & 'no business,' I look from the speaker to the passing thousands who tramp so energetically the thoroughfare, to rolling carriages, to loaded drays, to criers & ringers & beckoners (for all are so thoroughly alive that a finger or a wink suffices) and then to these long & lengthening streets — and ferries leading to suburban cities for Brooklyn already counts 40,000; and these irresistible affirmations do quite outroar &

182. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The year is clearly 1843; the New York postmark is dated Mar. 4.

183. William Emerson's home stood near the junction of the Richmond Road with the Clove Road (see James Butler, *Map of Staten Island*, 1853).

drown the feeble querulousness of the protesters, and I greatly prefer this to all the American cities. Next to the pine-barren, New York is best.

3 March. The lines above were written two days ago, since when I have been to Newark,[184] have spun again with all the tops in Broadway & the adjacencies, & here again I sit beside the snowy & grey green Clove. If you will not think that I have forgotten all the apostolical pictures of life — the race, the campaign & the seed field, and have converted it only into the boarding school, I would tell you of the young Tappan who delights me today as he has before, by most Laconian letters, whilst he makes his visits rarer than gold. He has sent me much such a letter as in Plutarch's Banquet Amasis King of Egypt sends to Polycrates (is it?) ;[185] and I think to reply[186] with a shower of questions, the same which have been accumulating since the invention of Aprils & Mays. Egg or Bird, which is first? Mood or Man, which is strongest? Buddhism or Occidentalism, which is best? What is an Individual? and so on, till he cries Hold, or till he answers one of them. But I fancy that game of Apelles in the story,[187] & think it fair that each should draw a line, or cut a cushion, or set a frog pond in full song. Is it a world to hide virtues in? But I love the virgin wit & manners of this youth at his compting house desk more than whole colleges & conversation clubs. I have not written to Concord for two or three days. Tell Lidian that I hope to be at home Wednesday night but if, as is just possible, I should be at Hartford on Wednesday, then Thursday at home.

And so with dear love to all in that house, & with honouring remembrance to all in yours, I am your affectionate brother Waldo.

I have some laburnum seeds for you from Susan who sends her love to you. Mrs Child wonders whether you reciprocate at all her friendliest recollections of you

184. The *Newark Daily Advertiser,* Mar. 1 and 2, 1843, shows that Emerson read " New England " before the Mercantile Association on Mar. 1.

185. Emerson was doubtless thinking of the letter from Amasis to Bias in " The Dinner of the Seven Wise Men " (*Plutarch's Moralia,* tr. Babbitt, 1931, II, 375), but confused the story with that of Amasis and Polycrates of Samos in Herodotus, III, 40–43.

186. Probably there were a number of letters to William Tappan, but I have seen none.

187. The story of the drawing of lines in a contest between Apelles and Protogenes is told by Pliny the Elder in *Naturalis Historia,* XXXV, 36. Emerson apparently added the cushion and the frog pond. The pond in full song suits very well the fame of Apelles as a realistic painter of animal life. The following sentence is Shakespeare's (*Twelfth Night,* I, iii).

## To Le Baron Russell, New York? March? *c.* 1? 1843

[Mentioned in Mar. 5 and 6, 1843.]

## To Lidian Emerson, Staten Island, March 5, and New York, March 6, 1843 [188]

Staten Island, 5 March, 1843

Dear Lidian,

I am grieved that you are or have been ill. When you are ill, you should have a letter every day, & I have written you none these five days, thinking myself so near my return & only writing to Elizabeth,[189] what I thought would serve as catholic epistle to the church in Concord. But Lidian hates to be generalized, even with the nearest & best, and is a Quaker in nothing so much as in her partiality for "thou to one." And you have been so good to me, in sending these bewitching nursery news, which I read with joy, & wish to be sprawling on the floor as victim & playmate of the noisy pair. I am edified by the details of Nelly's party, & glad that my political doll was included. I am sorry for every cent you gave to Mr Spear: [190] he is a rogue, for I told him I would not buy his book, & so he took the opportunity of my absence to beg of you. The woes of "help," I read with sympathy; there must be a new Iliad written on that theme. Susan says, Beware of sisters: they never do well, but spoil each other. Henry, whose name is good omen, writes me good tidings for the Dial. It seems that we shall quickly see to the end of that labor. For Miss Peabody shows me that it no longer pays its expenses, a plain hint from the upper power that it should stop, which I willingly accept. This summer then I shall do something, if God will, and certainly God wills. I am sorry if Bulkeley must go back to the Hospital, but oh how willing that he should be sick & not mad! And Mother went to Chelmsford in the cold days. She will never be cold, my mother dear, "nor pearl nor diamond can pay the debt to thee" Tell Mamma that Furness at Phila. lately, remembered Edward with great affection, & spoke of his behaviour at some small party at N. Y., where he last saw him, as beautiful, yet like that of

188. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

189. Letter of Mar. 1 and 3.

190. Probably Charles Spear, a Universalist preacher, whose *Names and Titles of the Lord Jesus Christ* had, according to Allibone, gone through at least eleven editions by this time and whose book on the death penalty was also popular. *Cf.* Thoreau, Jan. 24, 1843 (*The Writings*, VI, 52).

a banished lord whom all these things did not concern. Is it not strange, dear wife, that I should be an absentee so long? At Phila. I was forced to stay a full week longer from the circumstance of not receiving Furness's letter in Baltimore; & in N. Y. a fortnight longer for the Berean mistake which was made by an agency not at all likely to make a blunder of that kind. Was all this time lost? Far be it from me to say that. We believe, do we not, that all time is gained, and that our success is made of chagrins. I have seen much to encourage, much to gratify me who had already so much. Is joy a weed in the world? Oh no; but though I have no fierce evils, I am dull & weak to saturation. Perhaps I shall have learned in this tramp not to leave my country cabin in a hurry again. And I must be a little more bold & inventive, if I cannot learn how to be more inexpensive. Now I hoped to be at home on Thursday night; but a Hartford Lyceum [191] has promised to pay for my journey home, if I will make them a speech on my way, which, though not yet quite settled, for their proposition was for a later day, may keep me until Friday. But you shall know, before I set out homeward, which way I go. Fine noble little boys are these: Charley who keeps so close on Ediths track that Susan finds his picture in Louisa's stories of Edith (& blessings on Louisa! whom I hope you will not let go, unless for her plainest good) and Haven whom I dearly prize. The parents seem bent on securing for all three " the essentials," as Mrs Brown said of Mother, — the best education. Tell Mamma I have written to Dr Dewey,[192] & to Le Baron Russell,[193] & have visited Miss Ripley,[194] who is very well.

Carlton House, Monday. It is not yet certain that I shall go home *via* Hartford — I incline to think not. If you do not hear from me Thursday morning by mail you shall expect me Thursday night. Farewell, dear Wife, with love to all. Waldo —

191. See Mar. 12 and 13, 1843. Presumably Emerson was now in correspondence with this lyceum. *Cf.* also Mar. 6.

192. Letter of Feb.? 26? 1843.

193. Letter of Mar.? *c.* 1? 1843.

194. *Cf.* Feb. 11 and 12, 1843, which makes it seem probable that Emerson had sent her a letter about that time.

## To Lidian Emerson, New York, March 6, 1843 [195]

Carlton House N. York. March 6
Monday night

Dear Lidian

It seems probable that I shall get home on Thursday Eve. whether I come by Hartford or by Stonington but a dubious answer comes from Hartford today & a certain one is to come tomorrow. If they disengage Mr Giles,[196] I am to speak to them on Wednesday night.[197] If Mr G. will not consent, I go to Stonington. But from Hartford, Thursday morn. I may go to Springfield & to Framingham, & so reach home on the same evening. I feared it would cost another day. I have been this day dining with Mrs Sedgwick & her family, who, all the world agree, are charming, and a sort of heart of New York. Among the young things, there was one pair of dark eyes about ten years old which have a most incendiary look, & which will make joy & pain enough, I doubt not, in young New York, seven or eight years hence. But one ought to get a power of swift acquaintance of swift entering into the heart of people to draw any profit from this visiting & dining in a strange city. So much is ceremonial & laying & removing the cloth that the personal communications are greatly narrowed, and the sidewinds of miscellaneous chat may easily blow away the fairest beginnings of conversation. The insanities to the sanities in our life are a million to one. Yet there is so much nobleness of will and the appearance in the face of having offered our all, that it were savage to turn the back on it, unless you have yourself the apology of somewhat undeniably better. The Genius of Life, you know, is said to give to every soul that enters this world, at birth, a cup of oblivion. I think it would add to the power & peace somewhat of these parties, if each guest could forget his days to pictures, could forget all the particulars of yesterday & the day before, & all the expectations of tomorrow, & be driven to suck the deep life of the present hour. And here tonight William Tappan has been to see me a solitary wise needless youth, who scarcely acknowledges any wants, so firm is his cheerfulness & so much does every object minister to his thought. I ought to have asked him why he came to see me and whether the porter would not have answered his ends as well.

195. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Monday fell on Mar. 6 in 1843, clearly the year of this letter; and the New York postmark is dated Mar. 7.

196. The Rev. Henry Giles was well known as a popular lecturer.

197. See Mar. 12 and 13, 1843.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, March 11, 1843 [198]

Concord, 11 March 1843

Dear Margaret,

I regretted much coming home as I was suddenly decided to do, *via* Hartford, as so I missed seeing you in Boston, where every good Daemon advised me I should see you. Now I go to Boston Monday,[199] but with so many varieties of duty on my hands, that I know not how I shall get to Cambridge surely. Will you not then let me invite you to dine at Mrs Adams's on Tuesday at 2 o'clock and let me be sure to find you there at 1. For our Concord coach goes out at 3. And you I learn must be in town on Wednesday morn; so perhaps you can come on Tuesday? I think to end the Dial with this number for Miss P. assures me that the subscription is less than at the beginning of the year and is less than the expense: a plain leading from above or from below to an end. Some grave objections occur to me to the ending: but greatest advantages also and as I believe great access of reputation to the Dial. & hope of sale to existing copies. But the only personal interest to be considered in the matter is yours which you will never consider O godlike friend. Farewell

Waldo

I shall tell them at Winthrop Place [200] I have asked you, & shall expect no reply but your presence, if you can.

## To William Henry Furness, Concord, March 11, 1843

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship*, pp. 18–19.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, March 12, and Boston, March 13, 1843 [201]

Concord, 12 March 1843

Dear William,

I reached home in safety Thursday eve. *via* Hartford, only two hours later than if I had come by Stonington on Wednesday

198. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.
199. *Cf.* Mar. 12 and 13, 1843.
200. The home of Abel Adams.
201. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

P. M., and had the satisfaction of speaking to the Hartford Institute.[202] At home Lidian was getting well, little Edie was ill with hoarse cold, & Ellen was in Boston waiting for me to bring her home! gone thither, before my letters announcing my deviations from the old track, arrived. We must submit to some chagrins, even in getting home. Mother was quite well, & Elizabeth was here. The Doctor was called that night to Edith, & she is now very well. & Ellen has come home, alone, in the stage. " Papa did you forget me? " No my daughter. — " Then why did not you come & get me? " — All griefs however were forgotten in describing her city visit, in producing its fruits from her basket, & in the discovery & inspection & gustation of Haven's silver horn for her, & Charlies ruby horn for Edie. Lidian has now fairly resumed her place down stairs so that we ride prosperously today.

I have to say that Henry Thoreau listens very willingly to your proposition [203] he thinks it exactly fit for him & he very rarely finds offers that do fit him. He says that it is such a relation as he wishes to sustain, to be the friend & educator of a boy, & one not yet subdued by schoolmasters. I have told him that you wish to put the boy & not his grammar & geography under good & active influence that you wish him to go to the woods & to go to the city with him & do all he can for him — This he understands & likes well & proposes to accept

I have told him that you will give him board, lodging (washing?) a room by himself to study in, when not engaged with Willie, with fire when the season requires, and a hundred dollars a year. He says, it is an object with him to earn some money beyond his expenses, which he supposes the above named terms will about cover, and that his health now will not allow him to stipulate for any manual labor: he therefore wishes to know if there is any clerical labor from your office or from any other office, known to you — which he can add to his means of support. He is sure that his handwriting is not so careless, but that he can make it legible for such work. He would like to know if there be such employment attainable, pending the time when he shall procure for himself literary labor from some quarter in New York. He further says he shall be ready to come as soon as 1 April, if you wish, & he asks

202. I am indebted to Mr. Roger Warren Jones for newspaper notices of Emerson's lecture before the Hartford Young Men's Institute. *The Daily Times* announced on Mar. 8, 1843, that " Domestic Life " would be read that evening, and on the 10th the same paper published, for the amusement of its readers, some gleanings entitled " Sayings not Orphic by People not Transcendentalists."

203. Thoreau soon went to Staten Island in accordance with William Emerson's proposal. *Cf.* Apr. 3, 1843, and later letters.

whether it will be convenient to you to advance to him $20. before he comes, in case it is agreed between you that he shall come. — I recite this last proposition as he made it, but I can easily do it myself, if you prefer. You shall write in reply either to H. D. Thoreau or to me. Lidian & Elizabeth are charmed with the project, & think it auspicious on both sides only Lidian cannot spare Henry.:

Monday P. M. I have received here in Boston your letter & its enclosure of $110.00 [204] with great contentment. I had already written to Furness.[205] Lidian was down stairs this morn[g] at 7 when I came away in good health again. She sends her love to Susan with thanks to her for her letter & for her beautiful cap & (with her husbands thanks also) for her kindest care of her (Lidian's) husband. My joyful remembrance to the Boys.

Is it quite decent in me, after being in N. Y. so long, to ask Mr Prichard to let the German Doctor's Apothecary send Mary Ann Williams medicines for one month by Harnden? [206] He should pay for her but 4.00, for that for which Mrs Prichard pays 6.00; says Lidian. This commission, like that which follows, grows out of that most unlooked for departure on Wednesday morng for New Haven instead of *via* Stonington at P. M. W. E. Esq. will pay Mr Prichard for the drugs & charge them in my account. — But on second thoughts the other commission shall not follow

Yours heartily, Waldo

## To William Henry Furness, Concord, March 19, 1843

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship,* pp. 20–21. It seems probable, from Furness's letter of Apr. 20 following (*ibid.,* p. 22) that Emerson wrote again shortly before that date.]

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, March 20? 1843 [207]

Monday morn, 21 March 1843
Concord.

Dear Margaret,

I have many moods concerning the Dial dependent chiefly, I believe, on those with whom I converse. Mr Lane and Mr

204. See a note on Feb. 26, 1843, to Lidian Emerson.
205. On Mar. 11.
206. See Jan. 6, 1843, to William Emerson.
207. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Mar. 21 fell on Tuesday in 1843, but

Alcott are zealous for its continuance, and I remember several quiet & unsuspicious testimonies to its benefit. But Elizabeth Hoar is sure that its principal contributors will work just as well, & with some present reward, *out* of the Dial, and in the remark has a special reference to yourself. If by keeping the Dial, I could make it valuable to you, at the end of a year, I would keep it: but that seems no wise probable. On the contrary you are too valuable to it. Ungrateful Dial, thou must be dashed in pieces. So many heavenly bodies shine on thy face each lending thy gnomon a new shade, & no man in authority, no king or priest or foreign poet, & no municipality or crowd of merchants or marketmen coming to derive from thee thy delicate intelligence. Too painful; is it not? I have in these conditions accepted Lane's counsel which was the easiest of all, to say nothing, in the next Dial, respecting discontinuance. If we please to go on, we can; if not, we can die in silence. Meantime, if you will come up here next Saturday you shall be a most welcome guest and shall know all that I can tell you and all that your coming shall cause me to know. I will not probably go to fetch you but may leave you to the mercies of Obadiah Kendall; and yet possibly I will. *That,* as my work this week busy with the Dial, ah! perhaps its last rites! and as my correspondence presently with S. Ward, shall show.[208] Perhaps he will be gone to N. Y. But I think I will try to offer him Friday for the collation of Ellery's Poems, & in that contingency, I would fetch you up Saturday: yet in this second winter I usually prefer the dull certainties of the aforesaid Obadiah's vehicle to the contingent inclemencies & inconveniences of a gig when the roads may have no bottom. So you shall hear from me again, when the week is a little older. Tell Ellery, that I expected verses from him for " the Gift " at Phila., until Sat. night; and yesterday, in fault thereof, I copied out some verses from the Manuscript, & have sent them to Mr Carey; and now we will wait in patience to see if our ticket will draw any prize.[209] Thanks too to him for the new verses, " The Friends," which I print

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Emerson would more probably have mistaken the day of the month than the day of the week, particularly Monday.

208. This seems to imply a very recent letter to Ward, and there was almost certainly another to him, dated Mar. 24, which I have not found. *Cf.* the letter of that date to Margaret Fuller.

209. *The Gift,* 1844, published by Carey & Hart, contained three poems attributed to Channing, as well as Emerson's prose piece " The Garden of Plants." *Cf.* the letters of Mar. 11 and 19, 1843, to Furness.

in the Dial; [210] as I do also the lines to C. S. & E. H.[211] which he sent me for the last number.

Farewell, Dear friend.,. Waldo —

### To Horace Greeley, Concord? March *c.* 22, 1843

[Mentioned in Apr. 7, 1843.]

### To Margaret Fuller, Concord, March 24, 1843 [212]

Concord, Friday Morn

Dear Margaret,

I am sorry to have lost an opportunity of communicating with you a little earlier, so that I am a little uncertain how you stand affected, whether to come hither now, or to come later. Ward writes me that he can better settle with me the selection of Ellerys Poems on *Sunday* than at any other time. Morever,[213] that you will be at his house on Saturday; in these uncertainties, I write to him this morning [214] that I will come down there tomorrow P. M. and spend Sunday with him & see you there or at your house before I return, & persuade you to come home with Obadiah [215] & me. Waldo E

### To Elizabeth Palmer Peabody, Boston? March? 25? 1843? [216]

Will Miss Peabody when she sends the Dials to Concord, put up two copies of the No xi also in the pacquet. We agitate the question still of

210. Of the following April.

211. *Cf.* Dec. 12, 1842.

212. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Cambridge, and the Boston postmark is dated apparently Mar. 25, though the last digit is blurred. Mar. 24 fell on Friday in 1843, and this letter must follow closely that of Mar. 20? of that year.

213. But it is hard to say whether it is "o" or "v" that is omitted.

214. See a note on Mar. 20? 1843.

215. See Mar. 20? 1843.

216. MS owned by the University of Vermont Library; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to "Miss Peabody" at 13 West St., and in its margin there is an unsigned note in another hand mentioning Lane's intention to be in Boston soon. The eleventh number of *The Dial* was for Jan., 1843, and the question of the continuance of that journal is discussed in several letters of Mar. and Apr., 1843. It is, then, probable that "the Dials" of the first sentence were for Apr., 1843. The letter of Mar. 24 shows that Emerson expected to be in Boston on Saturday the 25th, and at Ward's.

the continuance of the Journal, & find some good reasons for it. I left the Atheneum [217] at Mr Ward's who will bring it to you. When any one goes to Brook Farm, I should like to send this letter to Mr Bradford.[218] Respectfully

R. W. E.

## To Mary E. Mason, Concord? April? *c.* 1? 1843

[Mary E. Mason, Boston, Apr. 6, 1843, says she ought sooner to have acknowledged Emerson's "two letters" about Miss Bacon, who had recently died. I have not been able to determine the date of this or of the other letter mentioned.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, April 3, 1843 [219]

Concord, 3 April, 1843.

Dear William,

We learn, with great gladness on all sides, that Susan is coming to see us with Willie in the course of the month. Let her bring with her a little South Wind which must have been busier with you than with us as we are in midwinter & you brag of the spring. Ellen is joyful in the prospect of Willie. and all the superior powers Elizabeth included in the hope of Susan. Elizabeth has brought a miniature painter to take Mothers benign face & two sittings have been had & a third this P. M.

Mr Thoreau was about to write you today that he would hold himself ready to come with Mrs E. on the 1st May. I told him I would say so. One thing Henry remarks in your letter that you promise a room with fire to himself for most of the day – He says that if he remains until the winter he shall wish to make a special arrangement. This is in winter when the evening is the best part of the day for the study, a matter of vital importance to all book reading & book writing men, to be at night the autocrat of a chamber be it never so small – 6 feet by 6, – wherein to dream, write, & declaim alone. Henry has always had it, & always must. He can very well sleep all the year without fire in his apartment. I do not see that this will be inconvenient to you. You can

217. The London journal, no doubt.

218. Probably a letter from Emerson to George Partridge Bradford which I have not found. *Cf.* the note on Apr.? *c.* 9? 1843. For Bradford at Brook Farm, see Nov. 21 and 25, 1842.

219. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

take the library in the evening, & give him the basement, or give him the library when you wish the basement.

When Susan comes, can you not send to Boston by her another package of medicine for Mary Ann Williams. You last sent but a fortnights supply. I demanded a month's. You paid but $2.00; a month's costs 4.00. If Susan do not come pretty soon, we shall be glad to have Harnden bring the medicine for a new month. Perhaps that is the best way, in any case, as Susan will have the trouble of detaching it from bundles & sending it to Concord Stage; so let it be so.

I will not fail to give her the 4th number of Dial. In the new one, I have inserted Charles's voyage to Porto Rico.[220]

Now let me give you such *accounts* as you have asked for

The amount paid me on your account by R. Haskins was $11.81

I believe you have a list of all your payments on Bulkeley's account. You must refer to them to know *which two* of the bills it was agreed between us you should pay & *which* I should, when you paid me 71.44 for that purpose. I will give you all the payments since the beginning of last year.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bill ending | 1841, | Dec 31 | 42.23 | |
| | 1842 | March 31 | 42.64 | |
| | | June 30 | 53.55 | |
| | | Sept 15 | 33.82 | |
| These to M'Lean Asylum then | | | | |
| To I. Putnam | 1843 | March (?) | 27.91 | |
| add | 1842 Dec. 2 | fares to Chelmsford | 1.00 | |
| | | letters & bundle | .37 | |
| | | Miss Minot for coat | .92 | (2.29) |

I have advanced H. D. Thoreau 10.00 & will pay him $10.00 more, when he asks.

Lidian brings me down an account from Mr Prichard showing that 2 Dec. he credited Mary Ann Williams with a balance of 1.50; since that we have had two parcels of medicine. Will you pay Mr Prichard & charge me; for in my account *in* N. Y. you charged me only with Harnden's charge, I believe.

My last letter went unpaid by mistake, so this I shall pay for instead. Farewell with grateful remembrances to Mr Prichard.

Waldo

220. "A Leaf from 'A Voyage to Porto Rico'" accordingly appeared in the April number.

### To Abel Adams, Concord? April? *c.* 3? 1843

[Adams, Boston, Apr. 4, 1843, acknowledges "Your esteemed lines" inclosing a letter for William Emerson. The letter to William was probably that of Apr. 3, 1843.]

### To Mary E. Mason, Concord? April? *c.* 4? 1843

[See the note on Apr.? *c.* 1? 1843.]

### To Rufus Wilmot Griswold, Concord, April 7, 1843 [221]

Concord, 7 April. 1843

Dear Sir,

When Mr Greeley told me he thought Graham's Magazine would be a desireable medium for the publication of my lecture, I entertained the proposition for a time, but made no decisive reply. He afterwards wrote me that Mr Graham would pay me $50.00 for the Introductory Lecture on New England.[222] It is not easy to set a money value on these things: two persons would never set the same price. I fancied my work worth twice so much as the sum named; and immediately wrote him,[223] that I would keep it, as it might prove to me of great convenience if I should decide to prepare a course of lectures on New England, to read in Boston next fall. I hope no inconvenience will arise to you from expecting my contribution for a given time.

Yours respectfully,

R. W. Emerson.

Rufus W. Griswold.

### To George Partridge Bradford, Concord, April? *c.* 9? 1843

[Bradford, Brook Farm, Apr. 11, 1843, says he is glad the curators of the Concord Lyceum thought of him, so that he had "some friendly lines" from Emerson. He states that he probably cannot write anything by the 19th, and he mentions also "your last kind letter," which probably means one earlier than the 9th (*cf.* a note on Mar.? 25? 1843?). Bradford, Apr. 16 (1843), seems to indicate, without definitely proving, another letter from Emerson between Apr. 11 and 16.]

221. MS owned by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; ph. in CUL.

222. Horace Greeley, Mar. 21, 1843, reported this agreement with Griswold, and said he was assured that the amount was as great as *Graham's* paid to Cooper or anybody else. Greeley urged Emerson to make some slight change in order to give the lecture the air of a magazine article and then to let him have it as soon as possible.

223. See Mar. *c.* 22, 1843.

### To Giles Waldo, Concord? April *c.* 10? 1843

[Waldo, Washington, Mar. 28, 1843, complains that he has heard nothing from Emerson for a long time. Waldo, Apr. 7, 1843, says he will soon leave Washington permanently, for New York, probably on the following Monday; Waldo, Brooklyn, Apr. 18 and 23, 1843, says Emerson's two last letters have followed him tardily from Washington, arriving only a day or two since.]

### To Elizabeth Palmer Peabody, Concord, April 14, 1843

[MS listed in American Art Association, Apr. 28 and 29, 1924; described as relating to the twelfth number of *The Dial* (for Apr., 1843).]

### To Giles Waldo, Concord? April *c.* 15, 1843

[See the note on Apr. *c.* 10? 1843.]

### To Margaret Fuller, Concord, April 20, 1843 [224]

Concord, April 20, 1843.

Dear Margaret,

I now think to make the effort of continuing the Dial for a new year: unwilling that a book of so good intent & which can avail itself of such costly veins as volunteer to bleed for it, should die; and whilst it has such sincere wishes from a few good people that its life should be prolonged, which wellwishers we will gladly believe represent a larger unknown company hovering in distance, or even in the Future. A great part of the reason why it should continue comes from you. You like that it should go on, & you offer so liberally after your liberal nature. You shall then do for it what you see fit, only I am always tempted in writing to you on this subject to bespeak your continence & not give too precious hours to writing articles even for Liverpool poets & critics or Cambridge acolytes to study. I will not have those divine bees who sting the brutish or you may read British world, *animasque in vulnere ponunt,*[225] lay their deaths at my door. So be as dull as a muse can who is also a friend, & very much wanted under the moon.

I have the subscription list this morning, in which I do not count but 220 subscribers: but Miss Peabody, affirms what I willingly hear that there is a change operating in the business of magazines – viz. that

224. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

225. Vergil, *Georgics*, IV, 238.

people incline rather to buy single numbers than to subscribe: and of all our journals, the Dial ought best to stand this test, — of merit in single numbers.

I will make the amendment of securing its publication on the first day of each quarter, which seems so important to booksellers. & I will try what can be done for more efficient publishing: but my main reliance of course must be in the goodness of the book; we are not magazine makers, but wish to represent &, by representing, further the best culture of New England. If possibly, if possibly, the Dial could look beautiful to you, my friend, & to me, I could well forgive its slender popularity.

I have a letter from Carlyle [226] today announcing the arrival by the

226. Carlyle, Apr. 1, 1843, in *C–E Corr.* Carlyle was eager to perfect plans to forestall any unauthorized American edition. He had already written about the matter on Mar. 11 (*C–E Corr.*) and, apparently before that letter could leave England, he added the following message:

"Chelsea, 15 March, 1843 —

"My dear Emerson,

"About four days ago I wrote to you about a new Book to be called *Past and Present.* I learn now that this letter, which I will mark 'No 2,' can still go along with the former; and so, having made a variety of calculations and arrangements, I will now with all brevity (my haste being boundless) communicate to you the practical result of them.

"Our next steamer for Boston will sail on the 1st of April. I have secured a copyist for the second portion of *Past and Present,* who is to be ready with his work all done, in time for that conveyance; the Printer, a punctual man, undertakes on the other hand to be ready with his share of the operation: wherefore, in brief, you can instruct your Boston Bookseller to expect a Complete Copy of the work by that said Steamer, so that his Printers may fall upon it, tooth and nail, — and overtake ours if they can; at all events, completely distance the New-Yorker, it is to be hoped.

"This is the essential of 'No 2.' I will do what is in me to be punctual; and as my subordinates are steady people, I think we shall manage it. — Our Book, as I compute, may be still some four weeks, after the April Steamer goes, in a hidden nascent state. If a letter of yours in answer to this arrived before Publication, as is possible, and informed us that another week or two of delay will be essential, that too can easily be granted.

"I send no 'Apologies': for they would but occupy my time and yours. I am very busy. Among my other operations I have undertaken to hear Lyell lecture on Geology, — a somewhat superfluous enterprise, at once wearisome and ineffectual; our Geologist being dreadfully *Neptunean* in his qualities, I fear! —

"John Sterling arrived yesterday, to see his Mother who is very poorly. I have not got eye on him yet, but shall attempt it today. Blessings and desert of blessings on you!

"Yours ever

"T. Carlyle"

new come Brittania of his new book half in print half in MS — called "Past & Present," for us to print here.[227] It is in four parts the Proem; the Monk; the Worker; the Horoscope; — Something like this is the division; but I have not seen the book. It comes an inconvenient moment for it requires hurry, & I was getting meditative on a chapter which I greatly wish to write. But the great brilliant friend must be served on the instant when he is 3000 miles off. Yours, Waldo. —
Lidian greatly desires to hear of her St Johns' friends, the twins.[228] Let the first news that come, come to her, — prithee.

### To Park Benjamin, Concord? April 23, 1843

[Mentioned in Apr. 24, 1843, and, without date, in *The New World,* Apr. 29, 1843, where Benjamin declares his intention of abstaining from publication of *Past and Present.*]

### To Harper and Brothers, Concord? April 23, 1843

[Mentioned in Apr. 24, 1843. But *cf.* Apr. 26 following.]

### To ————————, Concord? April? *c.* 23? 1843

[A letter to a Philadelphia "bookseller," mentioned in Oct. 30, 1843. There may well have been letters on the same subject to other publishers of whose identity I cannot be sure.]

### To Giles Waldo, Concord? April *c.* 24, 1843

[Mentioned in Apr. 24, 1843. Waldo, New York, Apr. 26, 1843, says he has tried to find something he can send in reply to Emerson's request. Presumably Emerson wanted filler for *The Dial.*]

### To William Emerson, Concord, April 24, 1843[229]

Concord 24 April 1843

Dear William,

Mr Prichard shall not go without a line, so I send you asurance of our abiding love for our fellow pilgrims in Staten Island & our strong curiosity to be informed how many they count at Judge

227. See Apr. 24, 1843.
228. The Stevens twins are mentioned in June 7, 1843.
229. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

Emerson's place. We wish to know if Susan is at Portsmouth & when we may expect her here. Lidian is in Boston for a few days but will be at home tomorrow & Mother is counting the days, & Ellen is well apprised that Aunt Susan is coming & Mr Thoreau betrays unusual interest, – he the Oneida Chief. Concord woods are full of engineers & their 'tail' contractors for the railroad: [230] but I rather sadly contemplate the present & future spoiling of the quiet of my town.

I received by the Britannia,[231] last week, a new book of Carlyle's, called "Past & Present," partly in MSS & partly in proofsheets. I am reprinting it here by Little & Brown, for Carlyles benefit.[232] and have

230. The *Christian Register* of June 17, 1843, reported that about one thousand Irish laborers were then at work on the Fitchburg line at a maximum wage of sixty cents a day.

231. The "Britannia" had arrived at East Boston on Apr. 19 (*Daily Evening Transcript*, Apr. 19, 1843).

232. No time was lost in getting out the Boston edition. Emerson dated his preface May 1, and about two weeks later Greeley wrote:

"New York, May 16, 1843

"Ralph W. Emerson,

"Dear Sir;

"That is a great book of Carlyle's you have just issued – a good book – and I shall do all in my power to push its circulation. I have talked of little else since I got it, and have sent a number to purchase it. But Boston books never get any fair chance here, they go into such wretchedly feeble hands. Up to this moment, the book has not been advertised in our City that I have seen, nor even noticed by any one but The Tribune, unless it be by the New World. This is cruel; well advertised, there would have been 500 copies sold by this time. Francis has the book, but he takes good care not to let any one know it but those I send there. However, I will make many know it in good time, for all our Fourierists will take it of course; and I will press it on that ground after time has been given for the Gentiles to read and profit by it. If I were to praise it now as leading directly to our Associative doctrines, it might repel some bigots from reading it.

"I will do my best to help sell off this edition; it will be praised and bought by our People every where; and when this is sold I think your purchasers should issue a cheap one. I think 10,000 copies of it might be sold at 25 cents, and printed so as to afford at least $800 net to the author. That is not much, but as much as he would be likely to make out of it after the first edition is disposed of. However, I only suggest this; I do not wish and will not have any thing to do with it myself, but to persuade people to buy it; I only want it widely circulated.

"Some of us Associationists will want to send a letter and two or three pamphlets to Carlyle; may we send them through you? We desire that he should be assured when our packet reaches him that it does not cover a new religion, since the Unstamped Postman may charge more than a penny for it.

"I trust health and happiness attend you. I mean to be in Boston or Cambridge, June 16th, and would rejoice to meet you. I suppose you never attend such exhibitions as that at Bunker Hill on the 17th, but I shall do so as a spectator. Mrs.

written yesterday to the Harpers & to Benjamin, of N. Y. to implore their clemency & forbearance. The book is perhaps 400 pp. and as much as I have seen is sure to be most readable & popular – and, as you see, my only fear is lest it be too popular.

I send herewith a little book to Mr Sickels, my quondam messmate at the Carlton House – Will you have the goodness to give it a right direction to him, if I have given it a wrong one. I believe his name to be D. E. Sickels,[233] but your Directory will know best.

And so, great love to the small boys.

Yours affectionately

Waldo –

Also I send a letter for Giles Waldo [234] who has come to live in N. Y. & you must please send it to Lewis Tappan's office.

### To Harper and Brothers, Concord? April 26, 1843

[Acknowledged in Harper & Bros., New York, May 9, 1843; apparently asked that this firm refrain from publishing an American edition of *Past and Present*. It is barely possible that this is the letter of Apr. 23, which the Harpers might conceivably have described wrongly as of the 26th or which Emerson might have rewritten under the latter date.]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, April 29, 1843

[MS owned by RWEMA. Printed incompletely in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

### To Samuel Gray Ward, April *c.* 29? 1843

[Mentioned in Apr. 29, 1843, to Margaret Fuller. The letter written to Ward "in 1843," a fragment of which is printed in Edward Waldo Emerson, *The Early Years of the Saturday Club*, 1918, p. 113, may, so far as I know, belong to this date or to almost any other day of 1843. But if it were not for the assertion there made regarding the year, I should be inclined to think that the "fine colloquy" by Ward was his dialogue "The Gallery," printed in *The Dial* for Oct., 1842, and that the letter was written a little before that date.]

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Greeley is at Cambridge, but has not, I believe, concluded where to be this summer. We are going forward with our Sylvania movement. Kind thoughts to Mrs. E. and Mr. Thoreau. Yours, Horace Greeley"

233. *Longworth's American Almanac*, 1842, lists Daniel E. Sickels as an attorney.

234. Apr. *c.* 24, 1843.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, April 29, 1843 [235]

Concord, 29 April, 1843

Dear Margaret,

You shall begin to print whenever you will; [236] I think I shall accelerate the march of our scanty Immortals and we shall all get ready to print in May; Shall he or she begin who is first ready? — A new Lydia happiest born is descended. Though no son, yet a sacred event; all events grow sacreder day by day. Write me, I beg you, why the child is named Lydia which S.[237] announces.

I enclose two letters to Ellery which came by post: and thank him for the fine verses he left on my table "the Earth," [238] which though he said for the Dial, I do not know but I must surrender to the Book: [239]

235. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Margaret Fuller answered in a letter dated May 9 and erroneously endorsed as of 1842:

"9th May. —

"Dear friend,

"I am trying to write as hard as these odious east winds will let me. I rise in the morning & feel as happy as the birds & then about eleven comes one of these tormentors, & makes my head ache & spoils the day. But if I get ready to print, as I think will be the case by the middle of next week, I wish to be sure of the first place, because I wish to go away quite free & not be followed by proof sheets to Niagara!

"We shall go the last week in this month or the first of June, & I think I shall go to Chicago & the Lakes, & be absent some weeks.

"The Eastern girls are as bad as the East winds only in a different way, one *will* come & the other *wont*. Anne thinks they will come tomorrow. I cant tell, but sigh about Lidian a doleful Ach, with each sunset that they are not here yet.

"S. W.s child is named Lydia because his mother in the flesh bears that name. Had it been a son it would have been named Jacob Barker! Why is not the advent of a daughter as 'sacred' a fact as that of a son. I do believe, O Waldo, most unteachable of men, that you are at heart a sinner on this point. I entreat you to seek light in prayer upon it.

"I have read a shallow book Howitt's Germany, shallow, but with items not to be found elsewhere I have a really good book Die Seherin von Prevorst. — However I am tired now of books and pens & thought no less, & shall be glad when I take wing for an idle outdoors life, mere sight & emotion. Ever your M.

"Can you send me the vol on Philosophical Necessity giving an acct of the St Simonians &c

"I hope you are getting time for your chapter."

236. "The Great Lawsuit" was printed in *The Dial* for July, 1843.

237. Ward.

238. In *The Dial* for July.

239. A copy of *Poems by William Ellery Channing*, Boston, 1843, is still in the Emerson library at the Antiquarian House. The *Boston Daily Advertiser* of May 6, 1843, announced that the book was published on that day. Ward had superintended the project, with Emerson's help. The title "Alek" did not appear in the little volume.

but will think on that. I have written S. Ward that Alek is his again. In this cold morn can remember nothing but the glory of yesterday which I enjoyed in the delicious idleness of pruning my trees from morn to eve, a whittling Yankee. Edith shouted for joy in her wagon and the household were saved so many pranks of Ellen's as she perpetrated on the uncomplaining earth, air, & woodpile, which fret not. My fair shadowy Louise [240] sends another spirit-letter to reclaim her MSS which has made me reclaim the last MS from Caroline & read it through it has often the simpleness & originality of the wind blowing. Farewell

Waldo.

Miss P [241] announces new subscribers to the Dial from Western N. Y. & Mobile.

### To Charles Stearns Wheeler, Concord, April 30, 1843

[Printed incompletely in *Anglia,* XII, 454–455 (1889); reprinted in less accurate texts, with the same omission, in *The Manchester Guardian,* Dec. 3, 1889; in the *Boston Evening Transcript,* Dec. 14; and in the *New-York Tribune,* Dec. 15 of the same year.]

### To William Batchelder Greene, Concord? May 2? 1843?

[Greene, South Brookfield, Mass., May 2, 1843 (or 1848?), with the year 1849 endorsed by Emerson, says that while he was correcting the proofs of "Transcendentalism" his conscience continually reproached him for not treating Emerson with greater deference. He says he felt guilty today when he met him but did not feel mortified till he read Emerson's kind note. He adds that his aim was not to refute but to popularize Emerson's doctrine, the doctrine of the East and of John's gospel. Why the endorsement gives 1849 as the year is not clear. Greene published his article "Human Pantheism," with its quotation from Emerson and discussion of the over-soul, in that year, but not till December (*The Spirit of the Age,* Dec. 22, 1849). What article or book on Transcendentalism Greene refers to in his letter cited above I do not know.]

### To Andrew L. Russell, Concord? May 3, 1843

[Acknowledged in Russell, Plymouth, Mass., May 18, 1843. Russell discusses the advisability of going on with his projected edition of Sterling, and invites Emerson to Plymouth to talk over the matter. Probably Emerson wrote again soon after he had received this reply from Russell.]

240. Doubtless Louise Weston, with whom Emerson carried on a considerable correspondence. But I have found none of his letters to her. *Cf. Journals,* VI, 388 and 393.

241. Peabody.

## To Henry James, Sr., Concord, May 6, 1843

[MS owned by Mr. Henry James; printed in R. B. Perry, I, 44–45.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, May 6, 1843 [242]

Concord, 6 May, 1843.

Dear William,

I received yesterday your letter with its enclosure $47.06 which comes in good time. Yet our Concord rapacity is greater than one would look for in a quiet town, & we spend faster than the utmost generosity of cities can keep up with. I have advanced Henry Thoreau $10.00 more, since I wrote before, & this sum having been expended in outfit, I paid him last night $7.00 for travelling expenses, so that I charge you with 17. — And now goes our brave youth into the new house, the new connexion, the new City.[243] I am sure no truer & no purer person lives in wide New York; and he is a bold & a profound thinker though he may easily chance to pester you with some accidental crotchets and perhaps a village exaggeration of the value of facts. Yet I confide, if you should content each other, in Willie's soon coming to value him for his real power to serve & instruct him. I shall eagerly look, though not yet for some time, for tidings how you speed in this new relation.

Mr T. will give you more news of us & our state for some time back than any letter, so I need not write. It was a great satisfaction to see Susan, who comes & passes like a blessing, although the ladies took possession of her & she found me in the midst of great arrears of letter writing.

Mother does not incline to go to N. Y. just now but Lidian showed me yesterday some good reasons which make it uneasy for her for a few weeks yet. I hope Charlie is quite well before this. & love to Haven.

Affectionately your brother
Waldo.

## To Giles Waldo, Concord, May *c.* 6? 1843

[Giles Waldo, New York, May 14, 1843, mentions this as a letter delivered tardily by Thoreau and implies that it urged a program of reading. Thoreau also brought from Concord the letter of May 6 to William Emerson and ar-

242. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

243. The letter of the same date to Henry James, Sr., also announces Thoreau's coming.

rived in Staten Island on the 7th, according to his letter of May 11 to his father and mother (*The Writings*, VI, 68).]

### To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, May 9, 1843 [244]

Concord, May 9, 1843

My dear Charles,

I hear with joy that you are again at West Roxbury, which is at least in the Commonwealth, & by many degrees more within my neighborhood than Providence. I have already been made so glad by the assurance that you were to live & work somewhere within the range of my sight & hearing, that I have felt myself heavily baulked by your long & remote aphelion. [1]Can you not send me some new tidings of yourself, — that your health is confirmed, that your heart is richer, that thoughts abound & ever from higher centres, that your aims define themselves and yet soar the while, as one finds the zenith in blue sky, & then far above the azure in a star?[1] Where are all the fine stories I was to have from your imaginative pen which so took my love, & excited so many hopes? [245] Where all the criticism on your various reading, which I was to share? If you knew how pure a pleasure I find in the records of a faithful & hidden life, I think you would like sometimes to confide a leaf to my sympathy. But at least let me know that you are well again, & mean to keep well, as one who has a task imposed on him. Yours affectionately,

R. W. Emerson.

### To Deborah Colesworthy, Concord? May 11? 1843

[Mentioned in the following letter.]

### To Margaret Fuller, Concord, May 11, 1843 [246]

Concord, 11 May, 1843

Dear Margaret,

Mr Lane has sent me two articles of no mean length,[247]

244. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL. The "9" of the date line was apparently written over "8." Excerpt I is in Cooke, *An Historical and Biographical Introduction*, II, 146.

245. Many letters of 1842 show Emerson's faith at that time in Newcomb's promise as a writer.

246. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

247. Lane was a generous contributor to the July and October numbers of *The Dial* of this year.

and I have other resources in near prospect, so I hope you will begin to print at your first readiness, and these things shall follow your last proof immediately. I rejoice in the approach of your escape into green champaign, the tunnels of mountains, the passage of streams as by cannonshot, and all the glad varieties of Western railroads with the solid joy of Niagara at the farther end.[248] May the sun & moon & stars be on your side when you leave the East winds behind, and Niagara famed through the world for one thing, — that it never disappoints. Yet if we could always bring the mood to the mark — but there are no such skilful people, and thus all our fortunes are unpredictable. If only we knew where for us the Spirit lurks today and were saved the despondency of groping for it in the vast Elsewhere, we should never need to go to the high places, crags, cataracts, & seas but you see I am ruined by bad company, & cannot even think of the emerald Niagara without a double mind — You may be sure I shall rejoice in every bright day of your journey, & guess its satisfactions. — George Bradford has been here for a day or two [249] & given me the last tidings of the Port Royalists of B. F. — Mr Bennett has given us tidings of Gais & Vater Krusi,[250] and also of William Howitt. — Ellery has many values for me, or would have, if I were better & more social. But the virtues & shining gifts of men admonish us often that our ears & eyes are gross & heavy. And for his sake I wish I were younger & gladder for he is, I think, very susceptible of influence from such as he could love. He has just got established in his new home,[251] which looks very comfortable, and shall, I hope, be happiest. — He has written lately a fine sonorous ode to "England," which I cannot now either lend you or copy for you But I must cut short, I find, this motley epistle only praying you, if you know where Mrs Park or Mrs Eustis live in Cambridge, that you would send my letter containing money to Nancy Colesworthy,[252] at your

248. *Cf.* a note on Apr. 29, 1843.

249. The letter of May 9 to Newcomb had, the superscription indicates, been carried by Bradford to Brook Farm.

250. William Bennett, London, June 1, 1845, recalled his visit to Concord two years earlier. Bennett and his wife had joined the household of "Vater" Hermann Krüsi, at Gais, apparently about 1841 or 1842. It seems that a pamphlet by Krüsi, the associate of Pestalozzi, had fallen into the hands of the English Quaker merchant and had drawn him to Switzerland. (Hermann Krüsi the Younger, *Recollections*, n.d. [c. 1907], pp. 63–64.)

251. In the letter of Apr. 30, 1843, Emerson mentions "the little red house next below mine, on the Turnpike," which Channing had just taken.

252. May 11? 1843. *Cf.* May 8, 1838.

convenience. The house, I believe is near Mr Keith's, one or two doors beyond, toward W. Cambridge.

Farewell, for this thoughtless hour,: yet my Mother insists that I shall send you her love & wish you from her a very prosperous journey. — I beg you to send or give to Caroline that note from W. A. Tappan [253] which I lent you. Yours,

Waldo —

### To Giles Waldo, Concord? May *c.* 20? 1843

[Waldo, New York, June 1, 1843, excused himself for not sooner answering Emerson's "last most inspiring letter." On May 14 he had answered Emerson's letter of May *c.* 6?]

### To William Emerson, Concord, May 21, 1843

[WmE List. Doubtless the letter described in William Emerson, May 24, 1843 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), as "Your brief line of greeting inclosing letter to Mr Thoreau."]

### To Henry David Thoreau, Concord, May 21, 1843

[MS owned by the Pierpont Morgan Library; ph. in CUL. Partly printed in Sanborn, *Henry D. Thoreau,* p. 135; completely, in *The Atlantic,* LXIX, 585–586 (May, 1892), with a slight deviation from the wording of the original.]

### To Robert Cassie Waterston, Concord, May 21, 1843 [254]

My dear Sir,

Carlyle did not send his copy in his own handwriting but used an amanuensis. A page or two of soiled copy in his own hand, however, were in the pacquet,[255] & I send you the best fragment of this which remains to me. I am glad you like his book, which I think his best.

Yours,
R. W. Emerson

Concord, 21 May, 1843.

253. Caroline Sturgis later became Mrs. Tappan. See Mar. 2, 1848, to Margaret Fuller.

254. MS owned by Mr. Walter M. Hill; ph. in CUL. Waterston's name is in the superscription.

255. For MS and proof sheets of *Past and Present,* see Apr. 20, 1843.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord? May 24, 1843 [256]

I find nothing to send you dear Margaret but these verses, I, who felt so rich a day or two since that I could easily have promised many sheets. But we must not live or associate miscellaneously. I dream often lately that I know & see far too many people, & that the good Genius of my life with warning gesture beckons me to the wilderness & to many privations, if I would come to my own. We are such busy organizers that I wonder that any socialists should exist who should fancy that more than one or two persons are needful to us when each man carries his sphere with him a journeying panorama in which he has contrived to attach his lasting ideas to eight or ten or twenty accidental persons who move in his neighborhood but who have little to do with the daemonic & necessary natures to which he has associated them. We are so fond too of imposing our nomenclature on everybody else. Tis no wonder that when each has his whole head, our societies should be small. Like President Tyler, we must ride in a sulky at last.[257] If I had not tried to live goodnaturedly with many, you & I had probably been more sufficient friends. At present I have nothing but gratitude, and before us is wide ocean & clear day, and we cannot go wrong.

I send Mundt,[258] if there be yet time for it to reach you. I beg you to congratulate Sarah Clarke on my behalf on the rich summer that opens before her, & tell her that I am very often her debtor indoors & on rainy days for the sunlight & foliage which she has brought from the forest & fixed by good enchantments on the canvass of this valued picture. I have often intended to write & thank her; Meantime you must convey this message And so the happiest journey to my friends, to my friend: Waldo.

Wednesday Night
24 May. 1843

256. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

257. The figure reappears in *Society and Solitude* (*Cent. Ed.*, VII, 8).

258. Probably the *Geschichte der Literatur der Gegenwart*, 1842. The letter of Apr. 30, 1843, shows that Wheeler had recently sent from Germany the book here referred to. *Cf.* Dec. 20, 1846, to Cabot.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, June 7, 1843 [259]

Concord, 7 June, 1843.

Dear Margaret,

If the great sheet & little lines do not fright away thoughts, you shall have a letter though late. Yet I remember to have

259. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller in care of Samuel Clarke at Chicago. She had written from Niagara on June 1 a report of her reaction to *Past and Present* and to the Falls, which she saw in bitterly cold weather (*Memoirs*, Boston, I, 261–263). Soon after receiving the present letter she wrote, in reply, her impressions of the West:

"Chicago, 16th June
"'43.

"Your letter, dear friend, was the first I received and most welcome. I stand rather forlorn on these bustling piers. I put a good face on it, but, though I believe I shall yet draw some music from the stream of sound, I cannot vibrate with it yet. In this thoroughfare scarce better thoughts come than at the corner of two busy streets.

"The dissipation of thought and feeling is less painful than in the eastern cities in this that it is at least for *material* realities. The men are all at work for money and to develope the resources of the soil, the women belong to the men. They do not ape fashions, talk jargon or burn out life as a tallow candle for a tawdry show. Their energy is real, though its objects are not invested with a poetic dignity

"It does not seem half so unpleasant to see them really *at it*, as it did coming along to hear the talk of the emigrants from the East, so wholly for what *they could get* It did not please to think that the nation was to be built up from such materials as teemed in the steam-boats, or crowded the landings. At one of the latter I selected from the tobacco chewing, sharp, yet sensual looking crowd, (and it was, they said, the entire male population that was out to stare at the steam-boat,) one man that looked more clean and intellectual than the rest, and was told he was a famous Land-Shark.

. . . . .

"Niagara and the great lakes, seen for the most part under lowering skies with few fitful gleams of light, have left on my mind rather the impression of a vast and solemn vision than of a reality. I got quite tired at last of seeing so much water in all ways and forms. Yet am glad I have had it and just so. I got so familiar that I might have been tempted to address even the British fall with the easy impertinence of the Yankee visiter 'I wonder how many years you've been a roaring at this rate, I wonder if all you've been a roaring would be approved on a slate.'

"I shall be very willing to go inland and ford shallow streams However the lake voyage *is* very fine. You stop often to wood for hours, and can then escape into the woods We did at the Manitou islands and saw real old monarch trees. And though I want now to get out of sight of the water for a while I cant forbear going to walk on the narrow shore of Lake Michigan. There is almost always a strong breeze and real billows tumbling in with a wild gray expanse and steam-boats fire winged cleaving the distance. It is grand too to take a walk which might be extended with scarce a variation of feature for hundreds of miles.

read that the human face seen through a magnifying glass, loses expression, and a little wit must needs seem less when gipsying it over so much white paper — But what to tell you? It is true — that which they say about our New England œstrum which will never let us stand or sit but urges us like mad through the world. The calmest life, the most protected circumstance cannot save us. I want some intercalated days, as much as if I lived in State Street — to bethink me & to derive order to my life from the heart. That should be the use of a reasonable friend to check this headlong racing & put us in possession of ourselves once more for love or for shame. The life lived, the thing done is a paltry & drivelling affair, as far as I know it, though in the presence & consciousness of the magnificent, yea the unspeakably great. Yet I love life — never little, — and now, I think, more & more, entertained & puzzled though I be by this lubricity of it, & inaccessibleness of its pith & heart. The variety of our vital game delights me. I seem in the bosom of all possibility & have never tried but one or two trivial experiments. In happy hours it seems as if one could not lie too lightly on it and like a cloud it would buoy him up & convey him anywhither. But by infirm faith we lose our delicate balance, flounder about & come into the realms & under the laws of mud & stones. The depth of the notes which we accidentally sound on the strings of nature are out of all proportion to our taught & ascertained power and teach us what strangers & novices we are in nature, vagabond in this universe of pure power to which we have not the smallest key. I will at least be glad of my days — I who have so many of them, — and having been informed by God though in the casualest manner that my funds are inexhaustible I will believe it with all my heart. Let there be no oestrum for me. I think of sculpture & painting only so, that they shall teach us manners & abolish hurry. I have heard of Niagara that it falls without speed. — I was sorry that you should have cold weather for your journey & the Falls. You should have found them buried in floods of heat and under a warm moon. I only wish that so rare a spectacle should be set

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" Write again, for I dont know when I shall return certainly not till August — Mention the Christian name of Mr Wms and I will try to see him on my way back. I shall stay a day or two in Buffalo with an old friend. Love to your mother & Lidian. I am relieved to hear the Kennebecker proved true at last. I have thought of it many times.

" Your ever affectionate Margaret.

" direct your next letter here too. I shall return here before going to Mackinaw." The omitted paragraphs are in Higginson, *Margaret Fuller Ossoli*, pp. 196–197.

& circumstanced in the best of times & chances for so rare spectators. Whatever they gave you, you will one day give me, O most bountiful of friends. If it was cold & bad weather, will you not come back by the same road & see them in July? — I should shun to tell you of myself of my reading & writing but for my philosophical preface. What signifies that I write trifles & read trifles, if the spirit have these broad leisures & countless pipes & inlets communicating with the sphere and anywhere a great result shall be slipped in. I cannot recall anything that I delight to mention yet I have had several days of a creamy smoothness whose worth & sequel I cannot suspect, though no fruit appears. I have the best of Chinese Confucian books lately, an octavo published at Malacca, in English.[260] Much of it is the old Confucius more fully rendered; but the book of *Mencius* is wholly new to me, and in its quiet sunshine a dangerous foil to Carlyle's storm lights. I have been trying to give account of P. & P. for the Dial but my notice does not content me.[261] Other defeats I will not recount, that I may not be a New England driver any more, but the calmest man. Ellery & I have good walks, & he is an excellent neighbor & one of the best of writers. The letters we print in the Dial, I admire.[262] H. D. T. writes a hearty commendation of his E's poems, in a letter.[263] S. G. W has sent me his papers on art, &c which I not only like, but think our people ought to know, so I shall tell him that unless he thinks he shall complete them, I shall print them as sketches.[264] We are all very well & quiet here, Lidian mending by homœopathy. — Edith the best that eighteen months can make — only E. H. has gone back to Boston immediately after her return hither, on news of Dr Randall's [265] dangerous state. Mr Alcott & Mr Lane have removed to their farm at Harvard in good hope. Larned & "Wood-Abram" [266] are at work with them. Lidian sends love to you & says, Abby Stevens has come at last, & she likes her well, & is sending today to the Kennebec for the twin. Richard

260. Apparently *The Chinese Classical Work commonly Called the Four Books,* tr. David Collie, Malacca, 1828. *Cf. Journals,* VI, 360 and 403 *et passim,* and see Arthur Christy, *The Orient in American Transcendentalism,* 1932, pp. 318–319.

261. Emerson printed his review of *Past and Present* in *The Dial* for the following July.

262. Channing's "The Youth of the Poet and the Painter" ran through the remaining four numbers of *The Dial,* making a total of twenty-eight letters.

263. Of May 23, 1843 (*The Writings,* VI, 80).

264. *The Dial* for July, 1843, contained Ward's "Notes on Art and Architecture."

265. *Cf.* Sept. 15, 1841.

266. Samuel Larned and Abram Wood, according to Clara Endicott Sears, *Bronson Alcott's Fruitlands,* 1915, p. 21.

F.[267] came up last Saturday I saw him twice at leisure with great satisfaction His promise is large I am sorry to hear from Ellery that he seemed tired & rather lowspirited. The College Display System has surely had victims enough, & he had better keep cows than add another. He has certainly been reading very well, talked soundly about his books, and about the college boys, & E. has promised to bring me some of his poetry. Caroline, I suppose, has left you before this. Give my friendliest greetings to Sarah Clarke. I would gladly be your companion in much of the way. I envy you this large dose of America; You will know how to dispose of it all. We have all been East too long. Now for the West. All good stars accompany you! Waldo.

This land is full of those who are or of those who ought to be & shall be your friends. So I entreat you to rejoice & be glad every morning & evening in the gifts God has bestowed & will bestow and believe that there shall yet be friends who can meet in the great landscape without a sense of inferiority.

There is a young man in Buffalo of the name of Williams [268] a lawyer, who once kept school here, very handsome very intelligent, whom I wish you could see & let him see you, & learn his present state.

### To Henry David Thoreau, Concord, June 10 and 15, 1843

[MS listed in American Art Association, Feb. 4–5, 1926. Partly quoted in Sanborn, *Henry D. Thoreau*, pp. 135–136; printed in *The Atlantic*, LXIX, 589–590 (May, 1892).]

### To Giles Waldo, Concord? June *c.* 19, 1843

[Mentioned as inclosed in June 19, 1843.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, June 19, 1843 [269]

Concord 19 June 1843

Dear William,

I have just got home from Bunker Hill, where was a magnificent spectacle.[270] The obelisk & Webster were the two excellent

267. Margaret Fuller's brother.

268. Probably the Charles H. S. "William" (*i.e.*, Williams, no doubt) of *Walker's Buffalo City Directory*, 1844. *Cf.* Feb. 11, 1851, and Nov. 13, 1868.

269. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The "19" of the date line was written over "20." The City Despatch postmark is dated June 21, the day when, according to William Emerson's endorsement, the letter was delivered in New York.

270. The celebration had occurred on Saturday the 17th, and, if a local paper

things which seemed to understand each other well enough; the vast multitude were goodnatured & affectionate even, like so many cousins. And all men & women & things were bathed in the best sunlight & southwestern airs so that no holiday could be more perfect, the joy being edged by the fright of the storm the day before. Webster's oration was nothing to speak of; he himself was in his imperial climacteric & needed not bestir himself for a little rhetoric more or less. — Mother is very well & sends you much love — you & yours. Lidian remains still quite a wreck of dyspepsia & debility and it is high time for her to get a great deal better. She has been consulting the homoeopathists but not yet with any marked effect. The Pathfinders [271] come to your thankful & affectionate brother. You made Waldo very happy with your kind looks & speeches [272] & he was sorry not to see more of you but Thoreau he said & the interminable thickets of Staten Island forbade. Please send him this letter.[273]

## To John Sterling, Concord, June 30, 1843

[MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Partly printed in *The Atlantic,* LXXX, 28–29 (July, 1897), and in *A Correspondence,* pp. 65–69. The name "Russell," which occurs three times in the letter, is consistently omitted from both printed versions, together with the following passage: "I do not know that any American book has been printed lately for which I should care to ask your attention, except one only, W. E. Channing's Poems, which if they should by chance get into any London shop which you visit, you must open. He is nephew of his namesake the Doctor, and is, though young, the best poet we have."]

## To Elizabeth Hoar, Concord? June? 1843? [274]

Do you not want to see what mountains of panegyric we have piled on poor T. C.?

R. W. E.

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may be believed, "The display was the finest ever witnessed in the country." There were several corps of soldiers, a total of thirty bands, several governors, the President of the United States, and, finally, Daniel Webster. (*Boston Daily Advertiser,* June 19, 1843.)

271. *The Pathfinder,* a weekly journal concerned with politics, literature, drama, music, and so forth, had first appeared in New York on Feb. 25, 1843.

272. Giles Waldo, New York, May 14, 1843.

273. June *c.* 19, 1843.

274. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. It seems impossible to determine the date of this note with any certainty. The reference may be to any one of several

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord? July 11, 1843 [275]

Dear Margaret, 11 June 1843

It is not certain that this sheet is now in time to find you at Chicago,[276] but I will write & cast it fearless into the bosom of the broad continent, to find you where it can. Your letter from C.[277] came safely with its good details and realities; so also did the mystic scrip of beads from the Senecas, which I daily & nightly behold. And now you have already learned that Allston is dead,[278] – the solitary link as it seemed between America & Italy. not strange that he should die, but that he should have lived 64 years. I never heard of his being young, or a beginner, and suppose that his first strokes were masterly. He was like one of those boulders which geologists sometimes find a thousand or two miles from the mountain from which they were detached, & science cannot show how they were conveyed. A little sunshine of his own has this man of Beauty made in the American forest, and who has not heard of his veiled picture, which now alas must be unveiled. Sarah Clarke, as she knows more of him than any one, will feel that our distant hills are impoverished, in her absence. But she shall tell us of him not in words but in colours.

You know too that our young Wheeler has died in Leipsic? [279] It is an immense disappointment to his parents who are neighbors of mine. Ellery & I walked over to Lincoln last week, to know what they had heard from their son, for their last letter had been news from

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reviews or prefaces written by Emerson. I am inclined, however, to think that the note was sent with the MS or the proof sheets of the review of *Past and Present* for *The Dial* of July, 1843. This was perhaps the most enthusiastic comment Emerson ever published on Carlyle: *Past and Present* was Carlyle's *Iliad* of English woes. As a political tract, nothing since Milton and Burke could compare with it. It was the work of a powerful thinker, a brave and just book, an appeal to the conscience and honor of England that could not be forgotten.

275. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The Concord postmark is somewhat blurred but seems to be dated July 13, and evidence noted below makes it certain that the month was July in spite of Emerson's "June."

276. The address is to Margaret Fuller in care of Clarke & Co., Chicago.

277. Quoted in a note on June 7, 1843.

278. Allston died July 9 (*Boston Daily Advertiser*, July 12, 1843). See also July 21, 1843, to William Emerson for Allston's death and burial and for his "veiled picture." According to Apr. 20, 1853, to Anna Jameson, Sarah Clarke was Allston's only pupil.

279. The obituary notice of Charles Stearns Wheeler in the *Boston Courier* of July 11, 1843, says he died on June 13, at Leipsic. Certain later reports give Rome as the place.

Heath,[280] of his sickness. They had no letter by the Hibernia,[281] & were disposed to think that a good indication. But Felton, I believe, at Cambridge has received a letter announcing his death by a bilious fever. I think more of his family I believe, than of the public loss from so much ingenuousness, perseverance, & generosity of mind as this young labourer possessed. — But I have no more to say to you now of melancholy fates. Here we are all living in quiet & friendly relations with good & beloved neighbors, as you knew us. We are all greatly contented with our last Dial, as indeed the total circle of my correspondents appears to be. "The Great Lawsuit" is felt by all to be a piece of life, so much better than a piece of grammar. H. D. Thoreau, who will never like anything, writes, "Miss F's is a noble piece, rich extempore writing, talking with pen in hand."[282] Mrs Sophia Ripley writes that "Margaret's article is the cream of herself, a little rambling, but rich in all good things" and Ellery testifies his approbation very distinctly & without qualification. I think the piece very proper & noble, and itself quite an important fact in the history of Woman: good for its wit, excellent for its character — it wants an introduction; the subject is not quite distinctly & adequately propounded. It will teach us all to revise our habits of thinking on this head. But does it not seem as if only in the poetic form could this right & wrong be pourtrayed? — If there were fewer people and the vital force concentrated on those few, as in my garden five old fashioned strawberries now go to make one giant strawberry, we might yet have a good tragedy or a new & better Parliament of Love, that should describe this thing with sunbeams. You will yourself write to this theme, whatever you write; you cannot otherwise. I heard from Brook Farm the other day that some choice spirits were reading "Leila" in the Dial.[283] What think you I have done lately? Geo. Bancroft gave me Dante's Vita Nuova, & recalling what you said, that I could not have read it, I have turned it all into English, the ruggedest grammar English that can be, keeping lock step with the original. I showed the sheets to Ellery, & he turned my prose sonnets & canzoni into verse[284] or ten or more of them so that if he

280. *Cf.* Aug. 4, 1842.

281. The "Hibernia" had arrived on July 3 (*Boston Daily Advertiser*, July 4, 1843).

282. Thoreau, July 8, 1843 (*The Writings*, VI, 94).

283. Margaret Fuller's "Leila," a character sketch, had appeared in *The Dial* for Apr., 1841.

284. So far as I know, neither Emerson's prose translation nor Channing's metrical version of parts of it has ever seen the light.

continues we shall after some correcting & filing get that which you were to do for me.[285] I do not often so help myself when I am promised help. Elizabeth H. is recruiting herself at home after her long ministrations to the Rs. She has brought home with her John Rs[286] portfolio of landscapes, which are a great prize to us all. Lidian has been a miserable dyspeptic this summer, but is better, & goes tomorrow to Plymouth to mend her strength & spirit. She sends her love to you & values her Maine twins: all the three are here just now. The children at the Red Cottage[287] are well, & their housekeeping is admired by all beholders. Ellery went up with me on the Fourth of July to Harvard, & saw Alcott & Lane[288] who, looked & talked much as the Three do at Felix's wonderful institution. – Ellery's " Youth of Poet & Painter "[289] is greatly liked & loved. Charles K. N. has gone to Niagara. Caroline, to Nahant. There should be some trysting place or Mecca where an assembly of true believers should be held. Perhaps it is appointed in purer places.

I desire to be remembered very kindly to & by Sarah Clarke and I think of you as in great natural enjoyments. Yours ever, Waldo –

### To James Munroe and Company, Concord, July 13, 1843

[Described in Merwin-Clayton Sales Co., Nov. 9, 1905, as requesting the return of a paper sent to *The Dial*. It is barely possible that this is the same letter listed, without place or date, in Anderson Auction Co., Apr. 15, 1912, and described as referring to sending a manuscript.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Concord, July 17, 1843[290]

Concord, 17 July, 1843.

Dear Lidian,

Nothing noteworthy occurred in the house after you left home until Saturday noon, when Giles Waldo arrived in the one

285. *Cf.* Oct. 11 and 12? 1842. The letter of Jan. 18, 1839, shows the beginning of Emerson's serious interest in the book.

286. *Cf.* June 7, 1843.

287. Channing's; *cf.* a note on May 11, 1843.

288. Charles Lane and A. Bronson Alcott wrote from Harvard, Mass., June 12, 1843, that they were busily and happily engaged at Fruitlands and urged Emerson to come and see for himself.

289. See a note on June 7, 1843.

290. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This and later letters of the same month to Lidian Emerson are addressed to her at Plymouth.

o'clock stage, in clouds of dust, and here he still is. He could not have come at any time when I was more ready for a guest as I have not at the moment any importunate affairs. He brings me a fine gentle spirit, great intelligence, & always interests me if in no other way by the beautiful friendship which subsists between him & Tappan. — We have walked & talked & read together & Mamma has made him good provision, or found it. For such was the admirable order which the Queen had left in her house that when she was absent, she could still entertain all comers. I cannot remember any other domestic facts of note, if not that Ann Stevens [291] went to Cambridge this morn; and a load of peat arrived & was housed on Saturday Eve. At church yesterday P. M. we collected $75.00 for the Fall River people; & Ellen carried Mr Waldo's pennies with which her purpose of contribution & its amount in copper & silver she entertained the congregation most part of the afternoon. The longest sermon will end: So did Rev Mr Hayward's and Ellen deposited her moneys in Mr Wood's box. Edith is in great health & spirits & her taste for "daubers" just as decided as ever. In the great penury of domestic news I believe I must abdicate my scribe's seat in favour of Ellen. Only do see to it that you have no annoyance in your vacation but the clearest happiest time. It is a noble grey old town that of Plymouth favorable to men & women. Let it love you & do you love it And believe that all your good works here shall speak for you the while. Mamma sends love, & you shall hear again presently from John Anderson. I was quite sorry that you should go away among such a swarm of gnats & nonsense concerning the hurrying of the day of departure

[292] Dear Mamma,

May I come to Plymouth & see Augusta. Please to come home as soon as you can & tell me what to do I know what is the corolla & the stamens & what is the people (petals) on a flower. I do not go to school today because Mrs Channing [293] sent word this morning that she should not keep today. I wish to send a little shell to Augusta but I think I shall carry it when I go to Plymouth May not Edie come when I come because Edie will have nice times.

ELLEN

291. *Cf.* June 7, 1843.

292. The following paragraph is in Emerson's hand but is signed in printed letters, apparently by Ellen herself.

293. Ellen Fuller Channing.

Remember me with respectful salutation to Mrs Robbins & tell her I think her very kind to undertake the recruiting of our invalid & pray her to come back with you to Concord to see to the replacing of the repaired clock on its walls.

### To George Partridge Bradford, Concord? July? *c.* 18? 1843

[Described in Bradford, Brook Farm, July 21, 1843, as "your letter by Lloyd." Bradford is glad to hear of progress on the *Vita nuova* (possibly a reference to William Ellery Channing's metrical version of part of Emerson's prose translation).]

### To Lidian Emerson, Concord, July 19, 1843 [294]

Concord 19 July 1843

Dear Lidian

Not a line comes from you to assure us that the dyspepsia is conquered & that you are thriving with new strength & spirits. Do not leave me any longer in the dark, but tell me how much good hope & good reality you found at Plymouth old friends & pleasant memories — Giles Waldo is still here & will probably return homeward tomorrow. Mamma is very well & carries her load like a cork, all but Ellen, with whom there is & must be now & then some skirmishing. Said Ellen appears to be in excellent health & spirits, & her sins sit very easily on her conscience. Poor Nelly, she is really a very good natured entertaining little scrap of humanity, nor does papa think half nor a quarter so gravely of her enormities as soon as she is asleep, nor half so gravely as Grandmamma, when she is awake. The much huffed & libelled Nelly, Aunt Elizabeth spreads her kind shield over, whenever she passes, — & Ellen asks her so eagerly for stories of Chanticleer & Partlet. Edith is the princess of Twoshoes, & carries herself royally upstairs & downstairs & out in the garden.[295] Out of any window or door she has learned to draw almost an air line to the strawberry vines & currant bushes and nobody has the heart to hold her back. She is perfect in her catechism so far as that "Mamma gon" & Where is Mamma gone "Sta" & "Bos" for stage & Boston. Mrs Brown appears to be as well as usual. She was here last evening — So was Elizabeth Hoar. Mrs

294. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

295. Probably Chanticleer and Partlet were from Chaucer, and the epithet "Twoshoes" from the old nursery tale *The History of Little Goody Twoshoes,* attributed to Goldsmith.

Channing will scarcely open a school with her two or three or four pupils So Ellen & Ellen's papa & grandmamma must be victimized. For to sit on the poplar tree or even to pick white raspberries will not consume many minutes of the long day. G. W. has taken so much time that the pen does not afflict the paper as steadily as usual. And no events except the arrival of Mr Smith from the Antislavery Office & Mr Orvis [296] from the Oberlin Institute to ask for money & to be answered with the Dial, have transpired. The emptiness of my letter must satisfy you how smoothly the lethe of our day has run; If we are idle you must not be as the sannup & the squaw [297] never must drink either rum or opium on the same day.

Faithfully yours,

Waldo —

## To Henry David Thoreau, Concord, July 20, 1843

[MS owned by CUL; ph. in CUL. Printed in *The Atlantic,* LXIX, 591–592 (May, 1892), where Emerson's abbreviations for "Boston" and "Tappan" are expanded and his misspelling of Hawthorne's name is corrected.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, July 21, 1843 [298]

Concord, 21 July, 1843

Dear William,

Though G. Waldo bro't no message from you (and apologised therefor) & though you are yet, I fancy, indebted to me for a piece of a letter,[299] yet of my great good nature you shall know that your mother your brother & his wife & babes are alive to remember your virtues & those of your wife & babes. I have had a pleasant visit from Waldo, who is a very amiable & sensible person, but Lidian has not seen him as she is at Plymouth. You read how fast our wise & great & our young people die. Mr Allston was buried the night of the full moon and I know not by what chance the funeral so belated that when they came to the tomb it was evening & the moon shone full on the beautiful white statue as all who desired to see the body were permitted

296. This may have been the W. B. Orvis listed as a junior theological student in *Catalogue of the Officers and Students of the Oberlin Collegiate Institute,* 1843.

297. Emerson uses these Indian names in "Musketaquid."

298. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

299. Apparently the brief note of June 19.

to do so.[300] He had finished ten lectures on art which lie ready to be published.[301] He has laboured lately on the picture which alas must now be unveiled I think of him as a boulder detached from that rock between the Adriatic the Mediterranean & the Lepanto Seas & by some convulsion not understood by geologists found at this wide distance among other rocks of later & different formation. Here is a letter from Mother, so I need not record domestic events.

Yours affectionately,
Waldo.

## To Henry James, Sr., Concord, July 21, 1843

[MS owned by Mr. Henry James; printed in R. B. Perry, I, 49–50.]

## To Lidian Emerson, Concord, July 24, 1843[302]

Concord, 24 July.

Dear Lidian,

Your letter written in such good spirits made us all glad, & Ellen clung to me like a burr to hear her part,[303] & to Grandmamma to hear the rest. We had already heard of your intended excursion to Barnstable whereof you give us no account. And I am glad the old native town looks so kind & full of friends They will build you up again strong, & when you come home, we will live so wisely & carelessly as to hold our own. I am glad of what you say of Andrew R.[304] & his letter. I do not quite yet dare to say that I will come to P. for you: but will think of it. The children are both very well & Ellen is gone today to Mrs Channing to school for the first time, in very good will. — Mrs Channing replies to your query that she will receive a scholar & furnish board, washing, & tuition at $3.00 per week: but if the parents are unable to pay this price, she will propose $2.50 —

Giles Waldo left us on Friday morning & bore his visit & various sufferings, exposed as he was to my severities unmitigated by any inter-

300. Flagg, pp. 329–333, shows that the painter's last day was spent on the "Belshazzar," already famous but still kept from the eyes of the public, and tells of the burial by moonlight.

301. *Lectures on Art, and Poems,* edited by R. H. Dana, Jr., and published in 1850, contained the four lectures Allston had actually completed.

302. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Lidian Emerson at Plymouth, and the year is obviously 1843.

303. The fourth page of Lidian Emerson, Plymouth, July 20, 1843, is to Ellen.

304. Russell.

positions of the Queen, with a laudable equanimity — Yesterday P. M. I went down to Lincoln & visited the Wheeler family.[305] They have got their letters by the last steamer from Heath, and the American Consul at Leipsic, & from the physician; but the last are in German and are sent to Watertown to be translated. What grieves them most, is, that in six weeks sickness, no message or word of any kind is reported *from himself,* to them, or to any one. Perhaps the Doctor's letters will give them some relief. They were very calm & had much that was most grateful to remember.

We live very calmly here at home & entertain little company and have fine mornings & evenings though the drought is becoming very serious to the farms & gardens. I should like very well to visit the sea, if I could transfer my whole apparatus easily there & work a month on the shore. But as I cannot it seems loss of time & perturbation. Mamma & the girls are glad that your woman (whose name I know not) has not come: they hope she will not: so do I. — I am glad you are so rich for I tho't that Boston gold was fairy gold, not haveable or spendable. If you have any more than you need, I pray you send me some, for I borrow all I spend & must quickly borrow anew, unless the Jas. Munroe faction, to whom I have sent for an account, shall be honest & feed me. Edith is admired of all beholders & gets days full of caresses, naps, currants raspberries & custard, and perambulations on the green, or rather on the yellow, before the East door, & down in the garden. But Ellen wishes to say some thing to you now that her dinner is done so papa must give way — affectionately. W.

[306] Dear Mamma, I want you to come home in three weeks. I went to Aunt Brown's, Saturday afternoon, & rode up in a chaise with Miss Barrett, & went to the shanties, & went & saw a baby named Anna Maria Moore, that was not so big as Edie; and kept getting in & out of the chaise, & I fell out, & hurt me a great deal (not much); and I had a good time. Edie sits in papa's arms, — whilst he writes the letter, but she will not let me count her teeth. She can say Ellen Robbins & Sharlin Robbins; & she can say Ellen more better than she could when she was a little baby. Will you write me a letter all full of printings, so that I can read it myself? Then I shall have a letter from Papa & Mamma.

ELEN

305. *Cf.* July 11, 1843.

306. Emerson wrote this paragraph; but Ellen's name, also in his hand, was canceled and her own version was substituted.

Edie puts her fingers in her mouth these two days & I can feel a little tooth on the left upper jaw*let* which must be that eyetooth you celebrate. Present my thankful respects to your kind hostess, I pray you.

## To Lidian Emerson, Concord, July 27, 1843 [307]

Concord 27 July, 1843.
Thursday

Dear Lidian,

I cannot think what is the occasion of your famine of letters, as this is already my fourth, & Mrs Brown has written once since you went away. I hate to hear that you should let such a circumstance distress yourself & these kind friends. Edith is very well from tooth to toe and very charming. Louisa Snow came here day before yesterday to Ellen's great delight but Edith did not know her but cried heartily at her caresses which vexed Louisa. L. went that evening to her mother's & means to pay you a visit on your return. We are heartily grieved to hear of the woman's coming whom you speak of, for the girls do not want her, nor any body else: & I mean to engage Louisa to stay, if she comes by again, & had charged Mother to do so, already, but she left the house whilst we were at tea. Yesterday P. M. you had no letter, for Ellen had chartered Papa to carry her to see the tigers, & to let her ride on the top of the Elephant; which she did, very well. And Herr Driesbach, for I believe the performer was no less, lay down upon a lion and a leopard & slapped & kissed a tiger & snapped the jaws of both lioness & tiger as prettily as you would show Edie's teeth.[308] Elizabeth H. said she felt as if she had been laying up images for a nervous fever, what with all these horrid cats & the exhibition of the manikin in 1700 pieces, – heart, liver, lungs, & entrails, which has been shown in evening lectures in Mr Frost's vestry this week. When we came home from Daniel in the lions den, with Mrs Brown & Mrs Channing, & Abby & Louisa, for all were there but Edie & Grandmamma, the plaster had fallen from the ceiling in the front parlor with loud noise a yard or two square in the centre, & broken the lamp on the centre table, & made a sad dust. It was well timed if it must fall, for Edie was not

307. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. July 27 fell on Thursday in 1843, and evidence cited below confirms that year.

308. The menagerie which Emerson saw at Concord does not seem to be mentioned in the *Concord Freeman;* but a " circus " had a little earlier leased a parcel of land in Boston (*Boston Courier,* July 21, 1843).

under it, no nor even Endymion.[309] I unscrewed & removed the looking glass on the mantelpiece after removing Endymion, Madonna & Aurora,[310] & this P. M. I mean to take down the other looking glass. & summon Blanchard & Hunt to the work of repair which I had already determined on, but did not know of this necessity.

Nothing else new or strange has turned up in the good sandbank, no rain, no whortleberries, no company. I have really a mind to do so foolish a thing as to go to Plymouth, since you still ask it, and to do the foolisher thing of carrying Nelly. If it should rain strongly between now & then, or a clear northwester should bring me new vigor for my work, I shall be less likely to come. But if you do not hear of me earlier, I may come on Tuesday. Ellen has come home from school greatly pleased with her letter & follows Edie & shouts in her ear from the paper the sentence about " darling E." & Edie seems to comprehend something of the matter, that a message has come from Mamma. Yesterday Messrs Alcott, Lane, & Hecker[311] stopped here a few moments on their way to Boston, but said nothing of their errand. Ellery & I live along as usual contentedly & amicably from day to day: and the Concord Rail Road goes on. Mother sends her love & is greatly interested in all that comes from you. I say " foolish " for me to go to P. because a flight like this to & from it does not serve any sufficient purpose. I should like to stay there at some time, for several days & establish an honest relation with your friends. I should like to go there at a convenient time & when there were idle companions enough, idle & wise, to get the good of a watering place & of its woods & ponds; and then again errands of necessity are always good; but an apple will not fall without sufficient reason & a man should not, for you do not need me there & are coming to me. But here is Edie again joyful with a handful of currants so present my thankful compliments to Mary H Russell, and tell her that tis dangerous to invite me. Mamma says " Banish all anxiety, for the two eye-teeth are both *through,* & she is finely, & your house is not burnt down, tho' partly fallen." So be bold & faithful. Yours faithfully, Waldo

309. See Nov. 27, 1839.

310. Carlyle's gift to Lidian Emerson. See *Journals,* V, 217.

311. According to Walter Elliott, Isaac Thomas Hecker had gone to Fruitlands on July 11, 1843 (*The Life of Father Hecker,* 1891, p. 83). By July 23, Hecker was determined to quit (Sears, p. 82). It seems that Lane and Alcott, at least, went on from Boston to visit Brook Farm and that they returned to Fruitlands on July 29 without Hecker (Sanborn and Harris, II, 382–383).

### To Sophia Dana Ripley, Concord? July *c.* 27? 1843

[Sophia Dana Ripley, Brook Farm, July 29 (endorsed 1843 in Emerson's hand), mentioned the "cheering words" of Emerson's letter and added a lengthy exposition of her own philosophical views.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Concord, July? 27? 1843? [312]

Thursday Eve.

Dear Lidian.

Mother says that Edie has no more cold than a bird though she sobs most bewitchingly at breakfast & dinner. Nelly is as curious & as busy & as much in papa's eyes nose & mouth as a fly: and the household proceeds after its customary laws: And here are ten dollars

All which is affectionately submitted;
R Waldo

### To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, July 29, 1843 [313]

Concord,
Sat. Night 29 July

My dear Charles,

Send me, I entreat you, your Niagara journal,[314] or, anyhow, the impression & result, for I have never been there: and if you went to the White Hills, tell me what you saw. And Mr Hosmer [315] shall bring home that poor little Italian Almanac [316] of mine, which should have found its shelf long ago. Better days than this long sirocco to you! Sam Ward wrote me that he had met you in the steamboat.

R. W. Emerson.

312. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. As Edith was born Nov. 22, 1841, the allusion to her behavior would hardly have been written before 1842. The letter seems to fit best into the series about the children in July, 1843, and I conjecture that it may have been sent with the longer letter of July 27. Emerson frequently used such a heading as "Thursday Eve" when he wrote a second letter to a correspondent on the same day.

313. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL. July 29 fell on Saturday in 1843, and evidence cited below shows that year is correct.

314. *Cf.* July 11, 1843, for Newcomb's going to Niagara.

315. According to the superscription, the letter was carried to West Roxbury by Edmund Hosmer.

316. Perhaps Emerson's Italian journal of 1833 or, less probably, his translation of the *Vita nuova*.

## To Abel Adams, Concord, August 6, 1843 [317]

Concord, 6 August, — 1843 —
Sunday Evening

My dear Sir,

I enclose $34.50 which is I believe the amount of interest due from me to Mr Snelling's Insurance Office,[318] some days ago. Will you have the goodness to pay it for me. If they charge me with interest for the delay, you must make a note of the amount against me.

I have been very sorry to have been in Boston twice lately without power to see you & learn news of your family. Once when I passed through town to go to Plymouth & once on my return but the first time I had not 20 minutes after my arrival before the boat sailed & the second time was late in the afternoon, when you were I suppose at Dorchester. — I must soon be in town again, & hope to hear good news from you. My wife has been in Plymouth for three weeks, until I brought her home, & is much improved in health

Is not bank stock rising a little in value? I shall gladly lose something in the original value of my City Bk. stock and pay my debts with it, as soon as you think it has come to its real value.

Yours ever
R. W. Emerson

I wish you would give my love to Mrs Adams, and to Abby who out of her good nature might write me word of her Aunt's health, & of her own doings.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, August 7, 1843 [319]

Concord, 7 August, 1843.

Dear Margaret, I have been at Plymouth two or three days to fetch home Lidian who is better, & did not get your letter [320] until my return. Now I will wait no longer, and when I have asked Ellery whether

317. MS owned by the Massachusetts Historical Society; ph. in CUL. The address is to Abel Adams.

318. According to *Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1843, Nathaniel G. Snelling was president of the Massachusetts Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

319. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller, in care of Clarke & Co., Chicago.

320. Apparently a letter I have not seen, perhaps written in late July in answer to Emerson's letter of July 11. Soon after the present letter was sent, the following one from Margaret Fuller must have arrived in Concord:

you have left with him or any other, directions respecting your Dial, I think I will venture to forward a copy this P. M. to Chicago. I greet all the good news you send me, but have heard nothing of Rock River from any other quarter, as I have not been in Boston, or seen any of

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" Chicago, 4th August, 1843.

" Just after writing to you, my dear friend, was received yours, & presently after that, the Dial, which I read quite through with an enjoyment it needs to be so far off to appreciate. Ellery's poem ' The Earth ' gave me singular pleasure. His ' letters ' too look better yet in print. I hope he will continue & print the whole while the Dial yet lives. It was pity to break Mr Lane's piece. He needs to fall his whole length to show his weight. There are fine touches of his peculiar dignity in it as ' So that there is still an occupation left for a few small actors on this stage ' &c. The letter from Fruitlands made me laugh till I cried it contrasted so whimsically with all I had been seeing and feeling in this region, where strong instincts and imperative necessities come upon you like the swoop of the hawk. ' Gifts ' is charming. ' Notes from the journal of a Scholar ' I had seen before, it is good to have it in my own possession. Why have I never seen that voyage to Jamaica, how excellent, though so slight a thing for its life and health and spirit. There are not many such leaves in those volumes, I trow.

" One or two questions I had to ask, but you will have no chance to answer them till we meet. I shall not be able to do any thing for the October number & am glad to see you are well furnished.

" Hints on A & A, I enjoyed reading again with Sarah: their strength and sense make me proud. Imagine my satisfaction at finding the verses To Rhea in so high a state of preservation. I was a simpleton to distress myself, as I really did several beautiful prairie hours, lest they were lost. I might have known his were no carelessly scattered Sybilline leaves, but carefully rolled papyri —

" Since I wrote I have passed several days travelling in the interior of Wisconsin; it was a pretty journey, though not to compare with my delightful pilgrimage in Illinois. Then apart from the superiority in beauty of that region, we travelled in a way that left us perfectly free to idle as much as we pleased . . .

" We visited an encampment of Indians, and some Swedes that interested me much. I have made slight mention of these in my letter to Sam & Anna. The tide of emigration now sets strong for Wisconsin & is almost wholly a continental population, hundreds of Swedes, Norwegians, Germans, Dutch are constantly arriving. There are many in Illinois, but far more in Wisconsin, a few fortunately rich, for they have a weary apprenticeship to serve, before they can use and enjoy the lands it is so easy to buy. These foreign women, however, I rejoice to see do not suffer as our Eastern women do; they have, for the most part, been brought up to work in the open air & have better constitutions, but all the Eastern women say ' oh it is well for the men, who enjoy their hunting and fishing, but for us, we have every thing to bear & no time or health to enjoy or learn.' — Farewell. I hope I may hear from you again once more, but hardly expect it.

" Yours always

" Margaret.

" I have missed by an accident a good chance to go to Sault St Marie, but have reason to hope another.

" As this goes by private hand I send you Mundt: the book is good for nothing except to set the last watermark of literary gossip but there is a short acct of

your company except the silent ones here-by. Today an unusual excitement honours our village, which my good Aunt used to say looked plague-struck, for Webster, Choate, & Dexter, are here to defend the Phœnix Bank Directors,[321] and all of us go to hear. Ellery thinks that it is so important to thin his beets that he shall not be able to go. Giles Waldo has been here a few days and approved himself very good & wise: in a few days I look for Tappan, of whom G. W. certainly drew a most winning portrait. At Plymouth I liked the Russells very well who are so excellently proportioned in their tastes & powers that conservatism never looks more amiable, seldom more *strong*. Lucia is one of the loveliest girls I have ever met and one of the favorites of nature to whom she has been lavish. Urania in such society is like the white Lady of Avenel,[322] whose belt grows thin to a silver thread. One visit in P. you ought to make, namely, to their superb chain of lakes, of which "Half Way-Pond" is the centre, & on its banks to visit Mrs Raymond,[323] one of the most excellent specimens of local life that ever dramatist or romancer should desire to behold. Albert Greene has no title to write his "Muster Day," until he has seen this live Yankee woman, "75 year old, come next October, & member of the church at Ponds, since she was nineteen." I warn you not to believe New England exhausted, until you have dined with Mrs R. in her house, where she lives entirely alone. Mr Briggs made an excellent Abolition speech, speaking extempore something more than an hour on the Anniversary of the W. I. Emancipation.[324] He has great fluency & rhetorical force of statement, only is a little too much of an orator all the time, & has heard Everett once too often. But it is as easy to listen to him as to any one I have heard, and, whilst I hear him, I appreciate the extreme

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Frederica Bremer & other Swedish writers that would be worth translating for the Dial, just now when interest is excited, on the subject."

The passage here omitted, together with a few words just preceding it, is in Higginson, *Margaret Fuller Ossoli*, pp. 193–194. Another very brief excerpt from this letter is printed *ibid.*, p. 166, where it is dated Aug. 5, 1843.

321. An account in which Daniel Webster and Franklin Dexter are mentioned was reprinted in the *Concord Freeman* of Aug. 11, 1843. It was during this famous trial that Webster, according to the story, misquoted Pope and was corrected by the nimble-witted Choate (*The Works of Rufus Choate*, ed. S. G. Brown, 1862, I, 300).

322. In Scott's *The Monastery*. Emerson was probably thinking of the seventeenth chapter and of the final one.

323. *Cf. Journals*, VI, 426.

324. For George Ware Briggs, see a note on July 18 and 19, 1841. *The Liberator* of Aug. 25, 1843, reports the speech Emerson heard on Aug. 1. Emerson's tentative plan to arrive in Plymouth on that day is mentioned in July 27, 1843.

purity of Dr Channings eloquence, from which everything extraneous & noticeable seemed removed. At P. I saw S. Larned who is recently from Fruitlands and to return thither, who helped me to bring up a little nearer to the present time my tidings of A B A & C. L.[325] Besides, Ellery has just walked up thither, & paid them a short visit. I infer that no stability can be safely promised to the society; that Mr A already anticipates the time when he shall be forsaken of all, & left alone, inasmuch as none will probably stand by him in the rigidness of his asceticism. Mr Lane is very much engaged with the Shakers, & will write of them for the Dial, & perhaps may join them.[326] They were both here for a short time the other day, but Mr A. was not well. At this moment, I hardly know why I write of them, for it is never in their gazettable movements that they draw me, and their own relation to the gazette, I think a ruinous vice. I have letters today from C. S. & from C. K. N. the former is just departing to Nahant for ten days from B Farm to return thither; and the latter wishes your address that he may send you his journal to Niagara. He shall have it forthwith.[327] Mrs S. W. Ripley too has written me again of the children of the Tunic.[328] Did I not tell you she had written me once of her discontent at their prodigality of life? — What can I tell you more? Ellery gave me very good lecture the other day on the landscapes in J. Randall's portfolio which E H. lent us.[329] I am sorry that the excellent reminiscences of Allston by Dr Walter C.[330] I have not to send you. My newspaper was *miss*ent by the P. Master when I tried to lend it through P. O. to Mrs Hawthorne. I beg you also to know that Ellery's Poems have not quite been forgotten Very explicit private testimonies we have to their virtue: as yet, no public. I wrote a notice at length, & sent it to the Democratic Review early in July, but I doubt it has not

325. Alcott and Lane.

326. "A Day with the Shakers," signed "C. L.," appeared in *The Dial* for Oct., 1843. Both Lane and his son joined the Shakers a few months later (see Jan. 17, 1844).

327. In Aug. 9, 1843.

328. *Cf.* July *c.* 27? 1843. Perhaps the "children of the Tunic" are the devotees of the simple life at Brook Farm, but Sophia Ripley's letter does not make the matter clear, and even Margaret Fuller was puzzled, for she wrote from Chicago on Aug. 17: "Who are 'the children of the Tunic'? have I lost some hieroglyphic key to the home dialect already."

329. *Cf.* July 11, 1843.

330. "Reminiscences of Washington Allston" by "W. C." — doubtless Walter Channing — was reprinted in the *Christian Register*, Aug. 5, 1843, from another Boston journal.

appeared in the August number, some of the contents of which I have seen. I sent O'Sullivan my name & think he would print it.[881] Do not be concerned for rhymes of mine I have so few, & so few contributions in rhyme, that I print them all. But I think they are better in the Dial

331. "Mr. Channing's Poems," a review not hitherto noted, I think, by Emerson's bibliographers, was duly printed in *The United States Magazine, and Democratic Review* for Sept., 1843 (n. s. XIII, 309–314); but Emerson wrote Thoreau on Sept. 8, 1843, that his comment had been "interpolated with sentences and extracts, to make it long, by the editor," so that he recognized "little beyond the first page" as his own.

That first page contains, however, some notable criticism. The author of the volume, we are assured at the outset, "need not owe any advantage to the eminent name he wears, but is ready to add, to the distinction which already encircles it, the fame of poetry." And as he goes forward with his appraisal of Channing, the critic manages to set forth, as we should expect Emerson to do, something of his own theory of poetry. Channing's verse in old forms keeps a new character, and many of his meters are original and of singular beauty. But here are more important matters. "Far from being popular verses, we should rather say that this was poetry for poets . . . It has given us to think how much sincerity is an indispensable element of high poetry; — that the author should give us his proper experiences, neither more nor less, and should tell us not what men may be supposed to feel in the presence of a mountain or a cataract, but how it was with him. . . . The writing shall have no foreign reference, but shall be a vent and voidance of things the man has at heart. Poetry thus written, we shall find wholly new, the latest birth of time, the last observation which the incarnate Spirit has taken of its work. This honesty comes only by highest endowment. Men utter follies, not because they prefer them, but from want of thought. The poet is preoccupied with the facts before him, and speaks well because the fact is too strong for him, and will not allow him to babble. That gratification this poetry will afford, as it is not conventional, but is stamped with truth. . . . And the imagery has the same genuineness; it is not borrowed from the great poets, but, though sometimes a little whimsical or surprising, is the form which the thought clothed itself in, and which required some courage to adopt."

Beyond the first page, which Emerson acknowledges as his own, there are several other passages that have the authentic Emersonian tone and seem to be his. Toward the end, the reviewer returns, in less friendly mood, to the subject of truth in poetry:

"Meantime, whilst we ascribe the high merits of truthfulness to this poetry, we are to say in honesty that when the poet fails, it is by departure from it. We think we find in certain passages a breaking faith with the reader, a certain want of intellectual integrity, which clouds and embarrasses the poem. . . ."

And then the writer points out, as we know Emerson consistently did to Channing and his friends, the annoying eccentricities of diction and the captious neglect of form obvious in many of these verses:

"We regret, moreover, many inferior blemishes, such as some quite needless licenses or negligences of speech and imperfect sentences, some unnecessary irregularities of metre, and redundant or defective lines. . . ."

But he ends with a more friendly note, recommending "The Earth Spirit," with its unconscious resemblance to Herrick, as one of the most pleasing of the poems.

Although this review is a far better developed and more orderly criticism than

than in your copy. Have you any sheets of journal or other MSS for that modest mendicant magazine? Speed them on!

My Mother, my wife, & my babes, are well, and the two former send you much love & rejoice in all the good they hear & hope for you — S. Larned at Plymouth had a laurel & myrtle leaf of a report which some west wind blew to him. Everything good we know is true of you; if not, because something better is to ensue. Your loving friend

Waldo.

Hawthorne remains well & quiet in his study. I have never had a moments regret or uneasiness concerning him, since he was here. Is not that much to say of a neighbor. Yet Ellery & Eliz. H. say, that they have not decided concerning his genius. S. G. W. I have seen but two minutes all summer. I see that you & that Sarah Clarke must suffer in the tidings of the death of Allston. Yet how dear & happy a recollection!

## To Benjamin Peter Hunt, Concord, August 8, 1843 [332]

Concord, 8 August, 1843.

My dear Sir,

It is much more than time that I should acknowledge directly to you the joy with which I found the prize which you had put at my disposal in the Journal [333] which Mr Dennis sent me. As I read it the first time [I]it seemed to me the best of all sea voyages,[I] and

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Emerson wrote in "New Poetry" for *The Dial* of Oct., 1840, there are some echoes of the earlier article. A number of the same passages are cited, but less fully, and even such an oddity as "the solemnest days of our bright lives" turns up again. In both reviews, the lack of finish of these verses is stressed, though with somewhat different intent. The commendation, in the earlier article, of the poet for "an absence of all conventional imagery, and a bold use of that which the moment's mood had made sacred to him" and praise of his fearless devotion to "a great meaning" which he had "too much at heart to stand for trifles" seem to be the germs of some of the more impressive critical pronouncements in the review of 1843. It is doubtful whether any American but Emerson could have written such criticism in 1843. Its one point of weakness was in the poet it recommended. But this weakness of the review, like its strength, only goes to emphasize the importance of Emerson's share in it. Few others, indeed, would have cared to make the effort in behalf of the little volume by a poet then and afterwards almost unknown.

332. MS owned by Mr. Owen D. Young; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–IV are garbled in Cooke, *An Historical and Biographical Introduction*, II, 176.

333. The "Voyage to Jamaica" was printed in *The Dial* for July and for Oct., 1843. Hunt replied to the present letter on Sept. 20, 1843, expressing surprise at Emerson's enthusiasm.

I made no delay in assuring myself that Mr D. had printed no part of it; for a year's experience of editorship has not a little whetted my natural appetite to a good Manuscript by the insatiate Secondary or Editorial hunger. It delights me by its directness & veracity, by its plain strength and its insight, and by its capital art of compression & of omission which in all writing seems so much. To me too [II]it has another quite additional[II] to all [III]its rhetorical values[III] [IV]inasmuch as it realizes so fully for me the promise of the large wise boy who made my school days in Chelmsford [334] so glad by his lively interest in books, & his native delight in ethical thought; and life looks more solid & rich to me when I see these many years keep their faith,[IV] and when I rejoin a principal figure in my group so accomplished & perfected after so long a separation One thing seems plain to me that your distrust of your talents for a success in literature is quite unfounded and that you need never shudder at the danger of being confounded with the very small practitioners whom I have heard you name. I am quite sure that there are none of the Messieurs nor Mistresses of the New York magazine press who could dare to handle your steel pen, or write one line of this Journal. My friend & neighbour Mr Hawthorne who is a better critic than he is a writer quotes this piece in the Dial as a solitary example of facts which had not lost their vigour by passing through the mind of a thinker. He set a very high value on the whole piece.[335] I have many other distinct testimonies to its rare merit, so that if any other voice were to be heeded than the inward summons of the Muse herself, I think you would have ample reason for making a fair experiment of your powers of instructing & entertaining the public. Why will you not with these repeated visits to the W. I., add to this journal what is most striking in your unreported experience and make a narrative which if not a picture of the Islands will be what is much better a daguerrotype of the observer's mind & character.[336] The printing in the Dial, such is the happy obscurity of that Journal, will be a very harmless rehearsal to a very small private audience, whom yet I cannot refrain from gratifying with another portion of the Manuscript I

334. *Cf.* Dec. *c.* 20? 1825.

335. Hawthorne's father was a sea captain and had died at Surinam. Hawthorne himself had already served his apprenticeship as a customs official. Less than two years later he published his edition of the *Journal of an African Cruiser.* Margaret Fuller had written her praise of the first instalment of Hunt's narrative in her letter of Aug. 4.

336. The final number of *The Dial* contained another article by Hunt, "Saturday and Sunday among the Creoles."

hold. Mr Dennis has been recently in Concord & though quite ill for a time seemed to enjoy talking of you, & gave me many particulars which greatly contented me. I heartily wish to see you, & when you come to this region again, I beg you to come directly to my house; so shall I be surest of seeing you. Meantime I wish you would write me some account of your present position & plans, & specially what you think of this design of writing: [337] & tell me if I cannot aid you in such an enterprise with our booksellers.

Your affectionate servant

R. W. Emerson.

## To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, August 9, 1843 [338]

Concord, 9 August, 1843.

Dear Charles,

Margaret the wise is at Chicago and in its neighborhood & will return thither many times until September, so you may safely direct letters to the care of Clarke & Co. Chicago Illinois.[339] And for this information I am to receive the Niagara sheet forthwith. I should

337. In his letter of Sept. 20 following, Hunt said he had no fondness for writing and had not continued his journal. But he was already looking forward to further voyages, and on Oct. 31 of the same year he wrote Emerson a long and interesting letter about the island peoples he had visited.

338. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL.

339. Eight days later she wrote Emerson a letter which must have encountered long delays, as it bears a Boston postmark dated Sept. 8:

"Chicago, 17th August '43.

"I must write to you this evening, my friend, as a solace, though that is a way you do not like to love or be loved

"O what can be so forlorn in its forlorn parts as this travelling? the ceaseless packing & unpacking, the heartless, uncongenial intercourses, the cheerless hotel, the many hours when you are too tired & your feelings too much dissipated to settle to any pursuit, yet you either have nothing to look at or are weary of looking.

"This is my last evening in Chicago, (the *place of onions* is the interpretation of the Indian name, & I can attest there is some quality here fitted to draw tears & so can two or three infants that are screaming in the gallery at this instant) I have just done packing Sarah is quite unwell, & nobody comes in to claim my vacant hour. But there are two of them (the hours c'est à dire), yet before bed time, probably there will be some leave-takings.

"But I shall scarce leave friends behind me though, perhaps, no foes. I have not reached forth the hand, neither has it been offered to me. I am silenced by these people, they are so all life and no thought, any thing that might fall from my lips would seem an impertinence I move about silently & look at them unnoticed

"Truly there is no place for me to live, I mean as regards being with men. I like not the petty intellectualities, cant, and bloodless theory there at home, but

have written you quicker, but that we have been full of company by reason of Mr Webster's presence in town [340] & other causes. You shall be very welcome to us all, whenever it suits your convenience to come, with or without "*passports*," especially with. Do not wait until autumn, but if you wait, do not fail to come. I should say, come today, & hear Webster, but that I consider that my brother is coming from N. Y. today, with intent to carry me off somewhither; [341] but tis very uncer-

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this merely instinctive existence, to those who live it so 'first rate' 'off hand' and 'go ahead,' pleases me no better

"The country ah! that is another thing in these wide plains, with their endless flowing treasures one could breathe a breath, free as rapture, over these smooth green hills could stray no more burthened than the deer. But I have not been there all the time. You say, (for I have received your letter this afternoon,) that I did not write you of Rock River, but I had written of it to others who, I thought would show you the letters, and I dont like to write circulars. Those were fair days, grand sights, worth coming all this way and paying all this time for. But of details that must wait now till we meet.

"At Milwaukie too I had an eye full, every day. From the lighthouse to look out over the lake, to see the thunder clouds gathering, reflected in that vast mirror, & the huge steamers looming up was very fine. Or to follow the margin of the lake beneath the tall bluff whose crumbl[in]g soil changed almost daily its bold & picturesque juts, to watch the color on the lake various as the prism with the varying depths lying in strata, an immense pallette, emerald, sapphire, amethyst Or along the smiling river with its many ravines, there grow the most twisted old arbor vitae trees that ever were seen, and the waterfall — but I have not room to describe!

"Here at Chicago every thing is flat as Holland. The place is made for trade, and used as such, let us be glad of any thing that fulfils its destiny — Not without sadness even here have I taken my last drive over the prairie, my last walk along the shore, good bye is always sad; we know we have not taken from the places, from the persons all they were capable to give

"I have received your letter & I thank you for all its news. — Who are 'the children of the Tunic'? have I lost some hieroglyphic key to the home dialect already. And what is that about 'laurels & myrtles,' I have seen no such plants here; 'red, red roses' grow amid the oaks, but they are not without thorns & their perfume is transient they do not bear gathering

"How could I fail in answering your last to speak of the translations of Dante & their paraphrase. I am impatient to see these leaves. Where there is a will, there is a way *surely*. I go to Mackinaw tomorrow to pass a fortnight & then back to Massachusetts, probably to be there by the middle of September. The Dial you sent came safe & though another had been sent I was glad of it, for the first was worn & soiled, though by use of only a few hands. In hope of a meeting ere long, (it is just a year ago today that I went to Concord to pass a pleasant tranquil month).

"Your friend Margaret."

340. See Aug. 7, 1843.

341. William Emerson, Aug. 4, 1843 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), said he expected to arrive in Concord on the 9th and proposed that his brother accompany him on a journey to Niagara or to the White Mountains or to "any other waters or Mountains that we could see or climb in some seven or ten days."

tain whether I go with him, and you shall be pretty certain of hearing D. W. in an important argument on Thursday P. M. or Friday, as the probabilities now stand. So if you feel any disposition to cross the fields that divide us & finish your portrait of the great Lawyer & Man, come with speed.

And so I commit you to the good Power.

R. W. Emerson.

### To John Sterling, Concord, August 14, 1843

[MS listed and partly quoted in American Art Association, Jan. 8–9, 1925; introduces Theodore Parker. This is the same letter dated Aug. 1, 1843, in C. F. Libbie & Co., Mar. 3–4, 1915, and merely 1843 in Goodspeed's, Nov., 1915. Parker, West Roxbury, Mass., Aug. 2, 1843, had asked letters of introduction to Sterling and Carlyle (*cf.* also the letters of Aug. 15 and 18, 1843). Parker planned to sail on Sept. 11, he said; but see a note on Aug. 18 following.]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, August 15, 1843 [342]

Concord, 15 August, 1843.

Thomas Carlyle, Esq.

My dear Carlyle,

Allow me to introduce to you Rev. Theodore Parker, who visits England on his way to the Continent. Mr Parker is a theologian eminent for his learning & his independence, & for his great power in persuading our people to adopt his opinions. I cannot let so good a Scholar go by you, without sending him to your door.

Yours ever,

R. W. Emerson.

### To Theodore Parker, Concord, August 18, 1843 [343]

Concord, August 18, 1843 —

My dear Sir,

I [encl]ose two letters [344] which I hope yo[u may find] opportunity to deliver to their several addresses before many weeks are

342. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. *Cf.* Aug. 18, 1843. Parker's virtues as seen by Scotch eyes are recorded in Carlyle, Oct. 31, 1843 (*C–E Corr.*).

343. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The signature has been cut out, and with it, on the opposite side of the leaf, parts of the text which I have supplied conjecturally in square brackets. The address is to Theodore Parker, who was to sail from New York on Sept. 9 (*Boston Daily Advertiser*, Sept. 11, 1843).

344. Apparently the letters of Aug. 14 and 15, 1843.

spent. Sterling is not unfrequently in London, & sees Carlyle always when there — Sterling's father lives at 2 South Place, Knightsbridge. I mean to send a small sum to Carlyle, which is due from the booksellers, by your hands, if I can get it paid in season. With thanks for your attention to the Dial (though you did not send me the promised article on *Styles*) and with the prayer that you will send us from beyond sea some good news for our quarterly " Intelligence," I wish you the happiest encounters & experience of new men & old things and a safe return with your riches Farewell.

### To Elizabeth Hoar, Concord, August 31, 1843 [345]

Concord, 31 August, 1843 —

Dear Elizabeth,

If Windsor [346] is pleasant to you you shall stay there with the good leave of all & of me also. but if it is not better than Concord, I wish heartily you would come home in the first stage. Caroline S. is here since last Monday until next Monday, & rejoices me by her love & reverence of you, and a long conversation yesterday made me wish for your participation & counsel. I could not help wishing as I heard the description of social disadvantages that some effort might be made for the relief of sensible people Their sufferings seem too so susceptible of remedy. They fancy that by living within reach of each other's society they could work & suffer better, & very reasonably anticipate from the instructions of sympathy an unlimited benefit: The experiment of Brook Farm is just so far valuable that it has shown the possibility & eminent convenience of living in good neighborhood, and that part of the institution may be borrowed & the rest left. I can think of nothing so certain to stop the perpetual leakage of the continent — letting all the best people flow off continually in the direction of Europe — than to make them fond of home by concentrating good neighborhoods. Is not the universal rule for the prevention of rovers & bad husbands, to make their own house pleasant to them. Every week I hear of some conspicuous American who is embarking for France or Germany, and every such departure is a virtual postponement of the traveller's own work & endeavour. I do not know how much my sensibility to this mischief is sharpened by hearing yesterday that William

345. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

346. The address is to Elizabeth Hoar at Windsor, Vt.

Tappan proposes to sail for Italy by the first vessel: Simmons [347] sails next week I believe, & Parker next week & Henry James [348] prepares to go, & Charles Newcomb may go at any time, & I suppose in a fortnight I shall have a farewell letter from Henry Thoreau. I have not yet learned that Rockwood [349] has engaged his berth, but Tom Appleton who is a sort of fine genius, I am told, has gone again. Now if these very persons or such of them as could bring their books & works, & Ellen Hooper & Margaret F. & Caroline & others as readily named, would by the slightest concert whenever & as far as it is in their power choose one place as Concord or Cohasset or Berkshire, the whole world would not be the poorer and all of us would be incomparably richer. Perhaps we should be ashamed to be idle or to be mean. Perhaps we should find a common end in the diffusing something good — Let us hope it! — I can easily suggest good sequences that might come, but the strength of the argument of Concord Socialism lies herein that half a dozen rare persons are at this moment available as recruits or conscripts for a Sacred Phalanx who would forever esteem him as their benefactor who should embody them in the name of the most holy Trinity Truth, Goodness, & Beauty. Let me not be crowded out of my message by want of room, that William Prichard also grieves over your absence & begged me to pray you to return. Write that you will come immediately & I will ask Caroline to prolong her visit. I think I must write to Henry James [350] and inquire why he should go to Europe when America has such claims & invitations. There is a strong way of putting this as well as weak cries of dilettantism. What do you think. Shall there be a reasonable neighborhood or only foolish ones. Your loving brother

Waldo.

### To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, September 1, 1843 [351]

Dear Charles,

The Dial is in great straits of spiritual poverty. Have you not a morsel of criticism on poet or novelist, or a morsel of poetry

347. Probably George F. Simmons, who resigned his post as colleague pastor with Samuel Ripley at Waltham and sailed for Europe about this time (*Worthy Women*, p. 162).

348. For Parker, see Aug. 18, and for James, Oct. 16, 1843.

349. Hoar.

350. See the letter of Oct. 11 and 15, 1843.

351. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL. The address is to Newcomb at West Roxbury.

or novel itself, to bestow on that distinguished suppliant? Help us with love & speed.[352]

Yours affectionately,
R. W. E.

Concord, 1 Sept. 1843. —

### To Samuel Brown, Concord? September? *c.* 1? 1843?

[Brown, Portobello, Scotland, July 12, 1843, said he was sending some of his writings by Advocate Russell, and told of his own acquaintance with Emerson's essays and of their doubtful repute in Edinburgh. Brown, Dec. 6, 1847, recalled the pleasure he had in Emerson's letter which was brought by Russell.]

### To Giles Waldo, Concord? September? *c.* 8? 1843

[Mentioned in Sept. 8, 1843, to William Emerson.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, September 8, 1843 [353]

Concord 8 Sept. 1843

Dear William

I received the other day your letter & its enclosed account & was very glad to hear, previously, of the sunnier termination of your somewhat rainy journey. Next July you shall come to Concord by railroad: and if you do not go to Niagara by Rochester, as Mr Prichard thinks you will, we will try to furnish you a road companion here. Nothing new or strange has occurred here very lately. Nothing since the Herr Driesbach & Mr Websters appearance in successive weeks.[354] Lidian, I am sorry to say, is suffering again after getting to the top of her condition by base fever turns. Mr Britton wishes to build me a house on my acre [355] he thinking that he can build much more cheaply than I, as his trade is lumber and he designs to have the use of the house rent free for one year as his commission & then let me have it on paying the footing of the bills — I to furnish the plan of the house, and we think of an expense not exceeding 700 dollars. Mrs Brown is greatly in want of the house when it is built. If she fail us, the rent of the house shall not fail in that situation in Concord. Ex-

352. Newcomb, Sept. 8, 1843, said he could not think of writing in these golden days of autumn but promised to send anything he might do in the following winter.

353. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

354. See the letters of July 27 and Aug. 7, 1843.

355. *Cf.* Sept. 8 to Thoreau.

cellent plan, you will say, if only Mr Britton were an honest & skilful man. That his neighbors think him to be. I incline to close with him on some terms but think to go & see Ralph Haskins Esq first. I subjoin a note or two from my Account Book in reference to the items on your Account. You will see that H. D. Thoreau received of me 27.00. On the other side I have to acknowledge the receipt of $10.00 from you cash in August. Please to send my letter to G. Waldo. With great good will & tenderness to all your house,

Your brother

Waldo

1843

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Apr 1 | Pd W E Jan. 16 cash pd Harnden for forwarding M. H. Williams [356] medicine | .38 |
| 3 | Cash to H D Thoreau on a/c W E | 10.00 |
| 5 or 6th | Cash to H. D Thoreau on a/c W E | 10.00 |
| May 5 | Cash to H. D Thoreau on a/c W E | 7.00 |
| June | Expenses of R B E's trunk .50—½ | .25 |
| Aug 20 | pd R B Es bill at Asylum 59.19—½ | $29.59½ |

## To Henry David Thoreau, Concord, September 8, 1843

[MS listed in American Art Association, Mar. 10–11, 1924; copy in Cabot's hand owned by RWEMA (ph. in CUL). Printed in *The Atlantic,* LXIX, 592–593 (May, 1892).]

## To Henry James, Sr., September *c.* 11? 1843

[Described in Oct. 11 and 15, 1843, as a letter written to James "A month ago" but withheld because Emerson, on reading it over, thought it "more pleasant than wise." The topic of the suppressed letter was the "socialism" which "runs mad around us." I suspect that Emerson had been on the point of inviting James to join an informal community of like-minded in Concord, a scheme for which was suggested to other persons in various letters.]

## To N. B. Perkins, Concord? September? *c.* 11? 1843

[Perkins, Salem, Mass., Sept. 9, 1843, asked for a lecture before the Salem Lyceum the ensuing season. Emerson's endorsement shows that a favorable reply was sent.]

356. That is, no doubt, M. A. (Mary Ann) Williams. See Jan. 6, 1843, to William Emerson.

### To Caroline Sturgis, Concord? September 29, 1843 [357]

x x x I find it hard to talk with Lane,[358] tedious, & it would soon be insupportable: yet is he a preacher of righteousness, & accuses & arouses me, so that I find him more valuable company than a man of information, a mere scholar who gives me fifty new propositions on the same platform I already occupy, but never a new platform. x x x We are wonderfully the debtors of these men when we look into the road & see who goes by in cart & coach, or look into the newspaper & see how the mankind buys & sells, rules & votes x x Perhaps they will stimulate our drowsy thought until we exert a stronger will & seeing how much we are agents in the tremendous game of cause & effect that is played around us, shall come to abandon things less, & know that we do the wrong which we permit. x x x Margaret came fresh from her western journey [359] & gave us anecdotes & also potions of divine scorn, a drug wh. abounds no doubt in that sinister jar wh. Homer tells of by Jove's side,[360] or certainly by Juno's. My bird of heaven [361] of New York has not yet appeared. x x x

### To William Emerson, Concord, September 30, and Newburyport, Massachusetts, October 2, 1843 [362]

Concord Sept 30 1843

Dear William,

We received your letter yesterday with great sorrow & concern for Susan & for you. Mother & Lidian had both foreboded some sickness for your family, — whether because Miss Fuller had told them that Susan was unwell the last day she was there.[363] — We earnestly hope that your favorable anticipations will be made good & better

357. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is an incomplete copy in the hand of Cabot, who has indicated the date and the person addressed.

358. Lane, long since established at Fruitlands, appears in many earlier letters.

359. Higginson, *Margaret Fuller Ossoli*, p. 193, dates the end of the Western tour Sept. 19 of this year.

360. In the *Iliad*, XXIV, 527 ff.

361. Doubtless William A. Tappan, later the husband of Caroline Sturgis. For his visit to Concord, see Oct. 10? following.

362. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The Newburyport postmark seems to be dated Oct. 2 and the date is so endorsed by William Emerson, who received the letter on Oct. 3. For the date, *cf.* also the letter of Oct. 2 to Lidian Emerson.

363. William Emerson had written on Sept. 27 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson):

"If you have seen Miss Fuller she has probably told you that she gave us the

& best. We shall anxiously expect news from you & you must send us immediate word how she is. Give her the dearest remembrances from us all & Mother is rejoiced that her sister is with her.

I have today a letter from Mrs Tracy [364] of Newburyport announcing that Aunt Mary who had been ill with bad cold for ten days has been seized with severe affection of Erysipelas which her physician Dr Spofford now thinks may terminate fatally — Elizabeth H. & I will go this P M to Boston & tomorrow, if there be a train, to Newburyport. This also is a sad appendix to the unpleasing purpose of your letter. Let our next communications be happier.

Little Edith has been ill but is better & Lidian quite well again.

Ever your brother,

Waldo.

Newburyport —

In my rapid running through Boston to reconcile many ends, I let slip the opportunity of sending this sheet to the P. Office. I came here with E. yesterday & found Aunt Mary much better. Friday night her physician thought she would not live until morning & now she is rapidly improving. Whether she will forgive the Doctor for curing her, seems doubtful. She says, she much desired to die here, & be laid beside her sister, & seems to have stayed here to give her fate a greater room. Mrs Tracy has been very kind to her. She hears with eager interest of you & Susan. I have not seen her this morn., but she has had a good night. In all good hope of better news from you too, Yours

Waldo

## To Samuel Ripley, Concord, September 30, 1843 [365]

Concord Sept 30 1843

My dear Sir,

I received today a letter from Mrs Tracy [366] in Newburyport informing me that Aunt Mary who had been ill with a bad cold

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pleasure of a short visit; it was just at the commencement of Susan's illness, & during a week of hard duty at Richmond; otherwise we should have enjoyed her delightful conversation much more than we did. . . . Her coming gave us also the pleasure of seeing Mr Channing. — What think you of ' the Present '? I like its temper better than its performance."

364. For Mrs. Tracy and Dr. Spofford, *cf.* Sept. 30, 1843.

365. MS owned by the New York Historical Society; ph. in CUL.

366. Probably the Ann Tracy who wrote to Emerson from Newburyport on Oct. 6 following, thanking him for a book.

for many days had been more recently affected with a severe erysipelas and in the opinion of Dr Spofford [367] the termination of the disease might be fatal. Mrs Tracy had proposed to Aunt Mary to send me word but she replied no I will tell you when to send to him & to my brother. Mrs T. decided however to send me this word. Elizabeth Hoar goes with me to Boston this P. M. & tomorrow, if there be any train, we go to Newburyport. From thence I will send you word of her condition. — She enquired of Dr S., it appears, whether there were any *hopes* of the malady's ending fatally. — I am very sorry not to have received my letter this morn[g] instead of this P. M. then I could have reached N. tonight. Yours affectionately,

R. Waldo Emerson.

Rev. Samuel Ripley.

## To Lidian Emerson, Newburyport, Massachusetts, October 2, 1843 [368]

Newburyport, 2 Oct. 1843

Dear Lidian,

We found Aunt Mary much better. Her disorder which on Friday night was such that Dr Spofford believed she could not live until morning suddenly changed its character & she has rapidly mended. She says her head from the eyes upward is one lump of disease & she sits covered with burdock bandages down to the mouth, but so much of her face as is seen looks very well.

I spent Sat. night at George Emerson's & found that a mail train was going to Portsmouth at 12½ on Sunday. So I went down to the Second Church to hear Mr Robbins's funeral sermon on Henry Ware,[369] which was admirable, only he preached more than an hour, & when it was 12 o'c., I was obliged to assassinate all proprieties, my own name having just been read out in full by the preacher, & bodily walk out of the church. By hard running I got to George B.'s door just as the coach arrived there with Elizabeth. Mrs E. persuaded the coachman to wait

367. Apparently Dr. Richard Smith Spofford (*Vital Records of Newburyport*, 1911; and *The Directory of Newburyport*, 1848).

368. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. *Cf.* the letters of Sept. 30, and Sept. 30 and Oct. 2, 1843.

369. Henry Ware, Jr., Emerson's predecessor as pastor of the Second Church in Boston, had died on Sept. 22, 1843. The discourse by Chandler Robbins which Emerson heard was not delivered at the funeral but at a commemoration service at the Second Church on Oct. 1. It was published by Robbins and was partly quoted in the *Christian Register*, Oct. 21, 1843.

whilst we swallowed a Carolina potatoe, and we came by the swift cars to N. Aunt Mary was so angry with Mrs Tracy when she found we were here by her instrumentality & so excited by our arrival that she would not for a long time let us see her. But she was in very good spirits & as meddlesome & troublesome a patient to her doctors & nurses as one would desire. She confided that " none of her folks knew where she was," but is quickly reconciled to being found. Mrs Tracy has been kindness itself. But her condition here is obviously lonely & unsuitable, and I shall invite her to go home with me or to us, when she gets better to be nursed for a time by us all. She hears with great pleasure that you would have come but for Edith, if El. had not and gave the strangest of reasons for wishing that you had. Dr S. she says is as well pleased with his work as if he had built up an old wall, but she shall know better than ever to employ such a doctor again. She had dismissed her first physician because she wished to die in the presence of a superior & intelligent man, but that Dr S. should have the assurance to cure her, was unlooked for. I have not seen her this morning & cannot now tell you what I will do, when I will come home. I shall stay here today & perhaps tonight or tomorrow morn I will decide & write to you. In town I found the Adamses [370] at home & I am to go there on my return. Aunt Mary inquires very particularly about Mother & of you & your babes. With dear love to Ellen & Edith I must hasten to send this sheet to the Post Off.

Yours affectionately —

Waldo —

In case of need I subjoin a cheque [371] —

## To William Emerson, Concord, October 7, 1843 [372]

Concord, 7 Oct. 1843.

Dear William

I received yesterday your letter [373] and the enclosed cheque for $175.00. I was very glad as we all were to get such good news from Susan; very sorry they were no better. But the foregoing letter had made us all anxious. I left Aunt Mary very comfortable on Tuesday morn[g]: & Elizabeth remained with her two days more. Hannah (Has-

370. Abel Adams's family.

371. The lower fourth of the second leaf, which probably contained only the check mentioned, has been torn away.

372. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

373. Of Oct. 4, 1843.

kins) Parsons came up from Waterford on Monday night to N. P. to see her & she will remain with her & go home with her to W. for she flouted the proposition of of coming home to me for a month or two. Give the dear love of Mother & Lidian & me to Susan with the hope of her rapid amendment. In haste your affectionate brother

Waldo

Margaret Fuller gave golden accounts of you & of her visit at your house.[374]

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, October 10? 1843 [375]

Concord, Oct 1843

Dear Margaret,

Caroline was full of joy, and her rivers, of sunlight, when I saw them for a good hour.[376] It now gives me but little pleasure to see my Aunt, for she suffers more than she enjoys, and sees every object under strong refractions. But I am too well assured of her originality & wit, not to see how much spur I have lost by the entire loss of her society for these last years.[377] When I came home, I found William Tappan here, & he left me yesterday; the most reserved of mortals & yet speaks & behaves with the utmost ease when he will. He wrote the "Sail" in the Dial.[378] And I think him a person of great promise, though he does not read. One must be at least a head taller than the whole population, before we can impute this easy postponement of all Shakspeare but Hamlet, & all Plato but Phaedrus, and the ready recognition of all the masters by a few casual strokes, — to the young men for selfsufficingness. And yet this youth has no assumption, carries no ribbon of extra sail. I hope he has not a particle too much of phlegm. I hear from Henry James, that he has decided to sail for England in the

374. See the letter of Sept. 30 and Oct. 2, 1843.

375. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The Concord postmark is dated Oct. 10, and the letter is clearly later than Oct. 2, when Emerson was at Newburyport. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller in care of George Ripley at Brook Farm.

376. He had probably seen Caroline Sturgis at Newbury or Newburyport. *Cf.* letters of July 13 and July 31 and Aug. 2, 1841.

377. Emerson attempted about this time to renew the correspondence with his aunt. Probably he had written to her shortly before Oct. 17, 1843, when she wrote him, refusing some aid he had offered but asking for a carpet instead. There is definite proof of later letters on both sides.

378. In the number for Oct., 1843.

Great Western, on the 19th instant.[379] He thinks it will be good for his health, as he has some uneasiness in his chest, & he desires the special remembrance of himself & of his wife made to you. " Ask her," he says, " to give me some service to render her abroad. I assure you it seems a real hardship to go away out of the country now that I have just come to talk with her. The dear noble woman, I shall often think of her with joy, & with hope of fuller conferences & sympathies somewhere." — So passes this friendly figure from the group soon as we go to think how to draw the bonds closer.

I shall study to fulfil your commands as to the papers that should go to you as quickly as I have adjusted some matters that press to be ended before the fifteenth & the nineteenth instant. I incline to sit at home this winter, if I can, & write instead of spouting. So shall I be a better correspondent. I have just read Montaigne's Journey into Italy for the first time with great joy & then the letter describing the last days & the death of Etienne de la Boetie, the matchless friend.[380] What a real world is this languid reading become, when we can thus solidify it with this long preparation and final gratification after twenty years & more. Then I have had the Gulistan of Saadi, and the Roman de la Rose.[381] I was at Cambridge library an hour lately, long enough to resolve to go thither again at the first occasion. Comfort your heart that both Waldo & Tappan each shot his deer in Hamilton County! [382] What a misfortune to live among the civilized when all personalities are indecorous. Montaigne & Saadi told all that befel them with name & date & it was counted unto them for for fame. But if we dare to speak of our friends we shall be sent to Coventry.

With a thousand hopes, your friend,

Waldo —

Can you not inspire Charles N. with a desire to write for us?

379. James, Oct. 3, 1843 (R. B. Perry, I, 50). *Cf. The Evening Post,* New York, Oct. 20, 1843.

380. Emerson read both in the edition of Montaigne's works by the younger William Hazlitt, as he writes Thoreau on Oct. 25, 1843.

381. In *Journals,* VI, 463, in an entry apparently made about this time, Emerson notes that in reading *The Gulistan* he finds many traits which comport with his portrait of Saadi in *The Dial* of Oct., 1842, and he compares the Persian poet with several great Occidentals. Both Francis Gladwin and James Ross had long since published their English translations. Many years later Emerson appeared as sponsor for the American edition of Gladwin's version. *Le Roman de la rose* of Guillaume de Lorris and Jean de Meung is in the book list for 1843 in *Journals,* VI, 484. Méon's Paris edition would probably have been available.

382. Giles Waldo, Sept. 26 and Oct. 2, 1843, tells how he and William Tappan went to the woods of Hamilton County, N. Y., and lived like Indians.

### To John Sterling, Concord, October 11, 1843

[MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Printed in *The Atlantic*, LXXX, 30–31 (July, 1897), and in *A Correspondence*, pp. 74–77. The name "A. L. Russell" is omitted in both printed versions.]

### To Henry James, Sr., Concord, October 11 and 15, 1843

[MS owned by Mr. Henry James; printed in R. B. Perry, I, 52–53.]

### To Thomas Carlyle, October *c.* 15? 1843

[Mentioned in the second part of Oct. 11 and 15, 1843, as inclosed.]

### To John Sterling, Concord, October 15, 1843

[MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Printed in *The Atlantic*, LXXX, 31 (July, 1897), and in *A Correspondence*, pp. 77–78. The printed versions omit "John Sterling," which appears at the end of the MS.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, October 16, 1843 [383]

Concord, [1]16 October, 1843[1] —

Dear William,

Mr Hudson [384] is kind enough to offer to carry a parcel & I have to send this pacquet to Henry James who goes to England in the Great Western on the 19th & takes letters to Carlyle. Will you have the goodness to send it to the Astor House. By the way, I remember that Mr James apologized in a letter to me for sending no answer to a note of yours which asked some information respecting Miss Fuller but which he did not receive until she had left town. Mamma's letter has waited a day or two for this opportunity, & I hope Susan has been getting better all the time. Lidian, whom homoeopathy cures, or so she says, sends affectionate greetings to Susan. Both my little girls are very well and their plays & their earnests and all but their cryings & ailings are a great & increasing gratification to papa. Ellen learns very well at Mrs Channing's school [385] & Edie very well at Nature's. Give my love to Henry, to whom I ought in all honour to write, but I owe quires of letters. Possibly I wrote to him or to you that Messrs Alcott & Lane had combined *with* Edward Palmer & were to remove to Leominster. Since Miss Whiting bro't me this news I have seen both A & L & learn that

383. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–II are in Cabot, II, 462.
384. Probably Frederick Hudson; *cf.* the letter of June 20 and 22, 1842.
385. *Cf.* July 17, 1843.

it is the bearded snaith-making Palmer & not Edward P.; but it is doubtful, or perhaps improbable that there will be any movement this fall.[886] Lane has been here two or three days, but neither he nor my older friend give me any confidence that they will arrive at any thing in practice They have no repose. no self satisfaction. but as quick as they have conceived a thing they are wretched until it is also published.

II I think not to lecture, by *courses,* this winter only by scattering guerillas & see if I can make a new book,[887] of which the materials collect themselves, day by day. Yet I am poor enough to need to lecture II for do you know that the City Bank divided 1½ per cent & the Atlantic Bank 2 per cent. Yet does not the Queen yet take in sewing nor have I become highwayman. Easier & idler we find it to become Hunkses and Hunksissimi. We hope one day to send you better news.

Farewell!

R. W. E.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, October 18 and 19, 1843[888]

Concord, 18 October, 1843

Dear Margaret,

It is good to hear from you again,[889] and though I have begun to blot, I will not turn back. Thanks for your beneficent proposals in behalf of Lidian,[890] who, I doubt not, will be glad to do as you say, as she certainly entertains it happily today. Health is a pregnant name, and Hygeia shall prove a metonomy for every muse in turn. Your conversation-room, I judge, *is* that which Bettine projected, and in the long winter into which our times have fallen is the search of the best after the sun. Strange strange absence of the soul of our souls. I have gone trifling the other day, the finest day, to the top of a hill with Ellery, & was surprised on turning, with the beauty in which I found myself like some profane person. ' How camest thou hither unprepared, O child! ' said the gracious presence. I wondered this morning at the

386. The final breaking up of the Fruitlands community is recorded in Jan. 17, 1844; and a number of later letters are concerned with the settlement between Charles Lane and Joseph Palmer, with Emerson acting as Lane's agent.

387. *Essays,* 2d series, 1844.

388. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

389. Apparently in a letter I have not found.

390. Probably an invitation to the course of conversations soon to commence; see a note on Nov. 5, 1843.

hard shallow fruitless worldliness in which I spend my days, & felt, as often before, that I should fly to profoundest solitude & the quittance of care — I, who in comparison with others am a hermit & an exempt. They say the railroad has made Massachusetts Boston, and I fear my habits & affections will make every cave Massachusetts. Yet would it not be best to accept the first omen of this kind & be driven into the wilderness humbly & gladly. Nature would wear a new face to the pilgrim who sought her thus holily & with so awful a guide. It is to such that she confides laws on tables of stone for half mankind, or opens the ever sealed senses & embodies for them all current tendencies in panoramas of Heaven & Hell. Yet one would ask no reward but the high sense of newness & true communiion[391] with the Power which was obeyed. Every epoch in a private spirit is a new kingdom for mankind, opens new leaves in the intellectual & moral world. Our antiquities & poetries are commonplaces, & have become stale. We are but a step from the Temple wherein all things shall become new. — I am glad you have recovered Charles N. for yourself he should be the truest votary. A high & plain speech should be used among all faithful men & women, and the hidden worthiness would answer unexpectedly. — Charles shall be silent with my goodwill ten years, if his silence is commanded, — but if he have any doubts, I find his silence already too long. Let him come & spend a couple of days with me, now: he shall be greatly welcome. Thanks evermore for your goodwill to the Dial. Yes if you will write of Strafford, it will be very grateful to me. I have written to Sterling to acknowledge the kindly pleasing book,[392] and shall most gladly give him that gratification you offer.

19 My letter waited too long & will not find you at B. F. I had a good letter the same day as yours from C. S. and one from S. G. W. & one from my Aunt. Forgive & love if you can or as you can your incommunicable yet affectionate W. There must be somewhat analogous in the factories of heaven to those of earth and as we make all of cast iron now & not of wrought, so are the men now made run in moulds, but do not yield or expand.

391. The " i " is repeated at the beginning of a line.

392. In Oct. 11, 1843. *Strafford*, London, 1843, is dedicated to Emerson, and there is still a copy in his library at the Antiquarian House. For the review in *The Dial*, *cf.* Nov. 5, 1843.

## To Henry Coit Perkins, Concord, October 20, 1843 [393]

Concord, 20 Oct.: 1843.

Dear Sir,

I accept the invitation of the Newburyport Lyceum to read a Lecture before them on the evening of 8th December next.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

Dr H. C. Perkins.

## To Caroline Sturgis, Concord? October 21, 1843 [394]

x x x I am so born & qualified for solitude that as a spoonful of wine makes some people drunk, so a little society, one person whom I cherish, turns my head with too much excitement, & no doubt I make compliments & fatuities not a few. I, on the contrary am a grave & even massive person of no words but few & good, possessor of so much quiet well being that I have little occasion to communicate by speech & never to solicit the society of adults, tho' I like to play with the children. I cannot recognise myself often when I remember the visiter I was at other houses, & think I will never wander so far again. Well, it is right & generous in you to confide in me & I will not despair of calm & firm conversation x x x

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord? October 22, 1843 [395]

Sunday, 22 Oct –

Dear Margaret,

It would have feasted your eyes & heart to have seen our woods & waters yesterday A steady shower of gold fell in the strong south wind

393. MS owned by Mr. Frederick Coykendall; ph. in CUL. Henry Coit Perkins had taken the degree of M.D. at Harvard in 1827. Perkins, Oct. 18, 1842 (correctly endorsed 1843 by Emerson), offered $10 and expenses for a lecture before the Newburyport Lyceum on Friday, Dec. 8, and asked what the subject would be. Perkins's letter bears Emerson's endorsement: " Answered that I would come Dec 8." The letter of Dec. 8 shows that Emerson was then on his way.

394. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is an incomplete copy made by Cabot, who has indicated the date and the person addressed.

395. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Oct. 22 fell on Sunday in 1843, and this year is confirmed by evidence noted below.

from the chestnuts & hickories And all persons except railroad makers[396] who had occasion to be in the forest walked I doubt not to the measures of rhymes which they made or remembered. That we are machinists instead of inventors (if it be true, as, very likely, there is great reason to believe,) only transfers credit from the person to the thing. New glory redounds to the immortal Muse when every husband & farmer begins to quaver. Every thing metaphysical assures us a long career, and the lovers of poetry this bout will be masters of the joyous science & of the joyous practice next time. What a satisfaction is the immutable sincerity of our love of poetry and our enlarging experience of its wealth. We have known ripples of song, but are sometimes assured that the Ocean boils with great tempests, that there are tidal waves, and that the all enveloping Ether of the Universe may propagate the undulations of a divine stroke to the end of things. We shall see, or we shall be. Your kind estimate of the lectures would be very persuasive to me, but that I think I have got settled into a purpose of forbearance this winter.[397] Perhaps it will be best on all private accounts. Besides, the good America runs so swiftly to demonstrations, that every privacy, which goes to solidify, should be cherished religiously. Though much more should be said to you, I will not add a line for fear to lose my chance by Richard,[398] — who says you did not hear from me yesterday.[399]

Waldo —

## To William Emerson, Concord, 25 October, 1843[400]

Concord, 25 October, 1843 —

Dear William,

We hope you will soon send us some good tidings of Susan's convalescence. Mother & Lidian wish for particular accounts. I received your letter of accounts,[401] with its enclosure of 35 dollars,

396. *Cf.* Apr. 24, 1843. For the completion of the Fitchburg Railroad between Charlestown and Concord, see letters of June 7 and 17, 1844.

397. *Cf.* Oct. 16, 1843.

398. The superscription indicates that this letter was carried by Richard F. Fuller, Margaret's brother.

399. When she should have received, no doubt, the letter of Oct. 18 and 19, postmarked Concord, Oct. 20.

400. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

401. William Emerson, Oct. 16, 1843 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), showed that the amount of the loan he — and Folsom — then held from his brother was $5800.00.

duly & with much satisfaction, as it much illuminates me. The money too was welcome, for I know not whether I have told you, my banks paid 1½, & 2 per cent, respectively. I told Mr Adams that you advised me to sell stock at a disadvantage & invest in N. Y. mortgages. He said, "Ask him whether he can get good mortgages in N. Y. now for 7 per cent." For money in Boston, I suppose, was never cheaper. Thus A. A. has borrowed 3500. for me (for a time) at 4 per cent & paid my debts at Globe Bk.; Mass Ins Office [402] & Concord Bk. & Savings Institution where I paid six. How long this good operation will stand, I know not. But an unlooked-for aid from Mrs Brown's [403] husband, who has sent his wife home repeated sums of money within a twelvemonth, has released some of Lidian's property for the present, when we needed it much.

Aunt Mary has gone or should have gone last week, to Waterford. She wrote that she would go with R. T. H who was to pass through N port. But Lidian I find is writing herself to Susan, so I have nothing to add but my love to S. & speedily may she be strong — and love to the boys.

Affectionately

Waldo —

Mother desires that you will send her Elizabeth's miniature by the first good private opportunity; for E. is gone weeks & months now, & her effigy also.

### To Henry David Thoreau, Concord, October 25, 1843

[MS owned by Mr. Owen D. Young; ph. in CUL. Printed in *The Atlantic*, LXIX, 595–596 (May, 1892).]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, October 30, 1843

[MS owned by RWEMA. Printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883, where not quite one MS page, mainly about Emerson's account with James Munroe & Co. on Carlyle's behalf, is omitted.]

### To Mary Moody Emerson, Concord? *c.* October? 1843

[Mary Moody Emerson, Jan. 18, 1844, seems to acknowledge a letter just received but later adds that she "did receive both the letters you name" and says she made the one about "woods & all fine things" the basis of her answer on Thanksgiving Day. Comparison with the letter of Oct. 22, 1843, which tells of the "shower of gold" in Concord woods, suggests that the letter an-

402. Probably the Massachusetts Fire and Marine Insurance Co.

403. Lucy Jackson Brown's.

swered on Thanksgiving Day may have been written as early as October. The other letter definitely referred to may well belong later in the same year. I have dated it *c.* Dec.? 1843?]

### To Lidian Emerson, Concord? November 2? 1843

[Mentioned in Nov. 3, 1843.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Concord, November 3, 1843 [404]

Concord —
Friday Eve 3 Nov.

Dear Lidian,

I am greatly disappointed at receiving no answer this evening from the Doctor. — I trust you had my note this morn.[s] requesting him to bring us a lecture next Wednesday Eve [405] — I meant to put up placards this night if he would come, & now you must not fail to bring or send me an answer tomorrow eve.

The children are very well. Ellen coughs a little, but we make her warm. Edie makes wise eyes at her father & all things. Louisa Snow [406] came here today on her way to Topsfield to bid you goodbye. We have yet no news from William E. directly indirectly we have heard that Susan remains ill: [407] no news from Aunt Mary. The teams do not go down until Monday. And herein is Elizabeth Weir's note. Love from Mother: And remember me with Kindness to your friends & if Susan Jackson will come with the Doctor to his lecture she shall be very welcome. Yours, Waldo —

### To Orestes Augustus Brownson, Concord, November? *c.* 4? 1843

[Brownson, Chelsea, Mass., Nov. 6, 1843, agrees to come to Concord to lecture and accepts an invitation to stay at the Emerson home. Brownson, Nov. 13, 1843, says he has mislaid Emerson's letter and cannot determine when he is to be in Concord. Probably Emerson wrote again in answer to Brownson's second letter.]

404. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Nov. 3 fell on Friday in 1843, and other evidence, cited below, shows that year is correct.

405. The MS record book of the Concord Lyceum (in the Concord Free Public Library) shows that Dr. C. T. Jackson, of Boston, lectured Nov. 8, 1843, on "Geology & Chemistry as applied to Agriculture."

406. *Cf.* July 27, 1843.

407. *Cf.* Sept. 30 and Oct. 2, 1843, and later letters.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, November 5, 1843 [408]

Concord Nov 5 1843

It is a good patient Margaret to bear with & expect us so long & still at the last to expect. It is the lot of virtue & superiority. Here then are

408. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Cambridge. She had probably written shortly before this time some message I have not seen, and a week later she answered the present letter, pointing out its " inconsistency ":

" Cambridge 12th Novr 1843 —

" Thy letter, o best Waldo, displays the wonted glorious inconsistency, beginning as a hymn in praise of indolence, and ending with demands of work. — It was a good idea to send me the other plays. I will bring in Taylor's and Coleridge's too, and make an olla, where Stirling will figure to more advantage than he would alone. Some leaves are written of my record of the West out of which I hope to make a little book. — It is for this I want back Triformis, intending to make a chapter at Chicago. I shall bring in with brief criticisms of books read there, a kind of letter box, where I shall put a part of one of S. Ward's letters, one of Ellery's and apropos to that July moon beneath whose influences I received it, a letter containing Triformis. So delay not to send it back, for when I have once concocted any such little plan, I am in a fever till I get it arranged, and you are almost as bad about keeping things as myself, and till I get the paper, I feel as if I never should see it again.

" Dont expect any thing from the book about the West. I cant bear to be thus disappointing you all the time. No lives of Goethe, no romances. — *My* power of work is quite external. I can give lessons or do errands while there are minutes in the day, but I cannot think a thought, or write a line except under certain conditions. To have you in the world, doing something yourself, and ready to be pleased if I do any thing, I like — but dont expect. I cannot promise any thing. Often and long I am without any real energy. —

" Yet I hope to write your piece about Strafford, for I have thought it out in some measure, & I mean to do it soon, while I am reading the books in the College library about the West, the old travellers I am reading. I like now to go over the ground with them & shall not continue my own little experiences till I have done with theirs.

" I must scold you about that little translation on these grounds.

. . . . .

So if I offered you anything for your Dial and you yourself did not like it, I am willing you should reject it.

" But if you are going to take any other person's judgment, beside your own, why should you not take mine? Why do you set some other person to read and judge that which pleases *me*, which you know I should have put into the book?

" I said I would scold you, however I do not mean to, but simply state how discourteous this act seems to me. It is good to catch sight of such a fact as this now and then, we balance it against his fine speeches and get the average of his view better than else his sweet smiles might let us.

. . . . .

I know it, and am prepared for consequences, but this setting some other person to read and judge is quite another thing.

no fulfilments no manuscripts no translations except your old property. And as if there could be any use in asking Why? Why no fulfilments? We are what we are made, each of us fills up his day, — from mite to mammoth, from fashionist to throned seraph, and finds the world a plenum. My babe Edith & I do each a great stroke of work every day and if the so called wise cannot find the smallest fruit to show for it, the worse for them; they must puzzle out of their wonder & contempt: We will still eat our lotus which we find so sweet, — the tree is loaded with more. I own it often happens to me to raise my head & make comparisons, & when I am so foolish, I wonder at the power of work in other people. I have heard incredulously that in other countries, men read & write twelve, — fifteen, — hours in a day. I a hermit protected on so many sides can seldom get more than five, though I think I remember that once I could extort seven. The decays of things, the dregs of Nature! I must subscribe for Miller, Himes, & the " Midnight Yell." [409] It is base to know what you do & count the clock: the world is all become for me a Peau d'Ane; and I know how much life every page & every fancy costs me. Well, I see you on your mounts, ye charioteers with glowing axle, with the more wonder & praise. And I am not so stupid under my

---

" Now I have begun on the chapter of adjustments, let me tell you a little thing about E. Hoar, who hates to have things left out of order. When at Brook Farm I wrote you about E. that she would not stay there because of some little scruple; I supposed about annoying her sister and added it on to her old account. I was vexed at the time because I thought I could have been the means of her having a good time, and I like to have her enjoy herself, and get pictures and materials for thought. Since, it turns out that it was my rude impetuous conduct that made it difficult for her to stay and not little scruples of her own.

" Will Lidian be present at my first Conversation? It will be next Thursday 16th eleven oclock morns at Miss Peabody's. I shall then expound certain thoughts, that have interested me during the summer. I fear I shall have but a small class this winter & am sorry for various reasons. But there is no persuading people to be interested in one always or long even.

" How is little Edith, she was unwell when last I heard. Dear friend

" yours ever Margaret.

" Write word that you will certainly stay here when you come to lecture & when that will be. I want to look forward to a meeting. Please let Ellen have the parcel Tuesday *morns.*"

The passages here omitted, which emphatically set forth Margaret Fuller's belief that a magazine like *The Dial* should represent the interests of various minds and not simply the taste of the editor, are printed in Higginson, *Margaret Fuller Ossoli,* pp. 166–167.

409. *The Midnight Cry,* first issued in New York on Nov. 17, 1842, was still published in 1843 by Joshua V. Himes as the organ of William Miller, who taught that the world would end in that year.

enchantments but that I know there *is* erect persistent power, and that the sleepless souls are most nearly allied to it. The whole atmosphere will by & by feel your strong pulses and the sluggard & the invalid will be reached by the undulations.

I did not really need the Memorandum, negligent though I be, but had already prepared to write you (when I tho't that your Mother wd. have gone Thursday) — that I wished to keep Triformis [410] for publication by all means & with many thanks, and to send you the French translation. I read it long since & thought it had no commanding claims. I set your enemy H.[411] also to read it, he found nothing. That was nothing, you will say, So last week, I gave it to Ellery, & he decided against it without phrase like a new Sieyes.[412] I dream that in these days you are doing not only the public favour, but me also the friendliest service friend can render in letters, namely, the reviewing of a friend. Sterling sent me the tragedy Athelwold formerly, because the writer was his friend; And Marston's Patrician's Daughter came about the same time: would they not possibly serve you as companion pieces? [413] I think I will send them & Longfellow's contemporary play too,[414] though it go to Newcastle.

I trust, my dear friend, that you have not been suffered to let the autobiographic chapters once begun under this roof, as I gladly remember, lie too long dormant, and you a Watcher in the heaven. The events & thoughts among which we play, look small & tangible when they arrive at our hands & understandings, but their pedigree has a million links & their parentage is old as Heaven & the First Cause.

410. Margaret Fuller published " Triformis " in her *Summer on the Lakes,* 1844, pp. 71–72. She stated that the poem was sent to her by " a friend in Massachusetts."

411. Thoreau.

412. Perhaps Carlyle was Emerson's source for the apocryphal laconism. In the seventh chapter, Book II, of *The French Revolution* he gives the vote of Sieyès as " *La Morte sans phrase.*" The official report of the dramatic roll call on the question of the punishment of Louis as printed in the *Gazette nationale, ou le moniteur universel,* Jan. 20, 1793, has simply: " *Syeyes.* La mort." This, however, was impressively " sans phrase " in contrast with Robespierre's long harangue in favor of the death sentence or even with Thomas Paine's dignified and moderate " Je vote pour la réclusion de Louis jusqu'à la fin de la guerre, et pour son bannissement perpetuel après la guerre."

413. Margaret Fuller's article " The Modern Drama," in *The Dial* for Jan., 1844, reviews the three tragedies — Marston's *The Patrician's Daughter,* W. Smith's *Athelwold,* and Sterling's *Strafford.*

414. Emerson's own brief notice of Longfellow's *The Spanish Student* was published in *The Dial* for Oct., 1843.

When the frivolous Present is ancient Past, this high birth will plainly appear. So I commend you, gratefully always, to the highest Muse.

Waldo E.

The " Ballads " [415] is yours —

### To N. B. Perkins, Concord? November 10, 1843

[Acknowledged in Perkins, Salem, Mass., Nov. 13, 1843, which also asks for a reply. Emerson's notation shows he wrote a second time, confirming Jan. 10, 1844, as the date of his lecture at Salem.]

### To Bailey E. Borden, Concord? November *c.* 10? 1843

[See a note on Dec. 8, 1843.]

### To N. B. Perkins, Concord? November? *c.* 15? 1843

[See the note on Nov. 10, 1843.]

### To William Emerson, Concord? November 17, 1843 [416]

. . . . .

only feeble Susan still was, & how high her pulse. It is very happy to think she is much better, but we shall be anxious until you give us new reports of confirmed convalescence.

Mother has been in Boston a few days visiting her sisters, &

. . . . .

I have just returned from Boston where I have been for two or three days with Lidian on miscellaneous errands. Some of them would interest you. Macready the actor has brought letters to me from Carlyle & from Harriet Martineau, & I called on him at his lodgings; & carried Lidian! & Elizabeth Hoar! to the National Theatre, to see him in Hamlet.[417] E. H. went to the theatre for the first time in her life. The criticisms on the tragedian are too long to write. He spoke to me of staying

415. Perhaps Longfellow's *Ballads and Other Poems*, 1842.

416. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The upper two-thirds of the first leaf is now missing. The date, which I take from William's endorsement, was presumably written by Emerson on the fragment now lost.

417. The *Daily Evening Transcript* of Nov. 15, 1843, announced that Macready would appear as Hamlet at the National Theatre that night. Macready, Boston, n.d. (postmarked Boston, Oct. 13), says nothing about letters from Carlyle or from Harriet Martineau and presumably belongs to some other year. In this note the actor tells how his desire to visit Emerson has been balked more than once and mentions his impending departure for his own country. Probably there was a reply, but I have no further evidence.

in America for a good while, & of course we offered to show him our alder-bushes.

Very greatly to my relief & to all our reliefs in this homestead, I have received very unexpectedly a recent dividend from the estate of Ellen's brother George W. Tucker, amounting to $353.00 which makes us all feel immensely rich.

Will you tell Willie that Grandmother received his letter, but is not here present to tell me with how much pleasure she read it. But Ellen reads hers by night & by morning. Many of the words she could read at first herself, & very soon will read them all. Also Edith & Ellen with many smiles, often-repeated, received & opened & reopened the horns of Haven & Charles. Give my love & Lidian's to Susan with all affectionate wishes.

Your brother

Waldo.

## To Edward Jarvis, Concord, November 17, 1843 [418]

Concord 17 Nov. 1843

My dear Sir,

I have kept your letter [419] by me thus long until I could agree with Mr Keith [420] of the Cambridge Lyceum, who had some claims on me, that might interfere with, or corroborate yours, — as they should be settled. Now, if you are still offering me the evening of 18 Jan. at Dorchester, I will accept the proposal, & hold myself engaged to you for that evening. I will not now promise you a particular subject but I fear the lectures you name are too old & musty for 1844.

Your friend & servant,

*Over!* R. W. Emerson.

This instant on looking once more at your letter it occurs that the dubious figure which I have read 8 may be 6 & that you say " *16* or *23* " not *18 or 23:* If it be so I will come on *Tuesday 16th Janv*, if you write me presently to confirm it.

R. W. E.

418. MS owned by the Maine Historical Society; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Dr. Edward Jarvis, Dorchester, Mass. For Jarvis, *cf.* Dec. 10, 1836.

419. Jarvis, Dorchester, Mass., Nov. 9, 1843, invites Emerson to come on the 16th or 23d of the following January and read his lecture on natural history or one on Italy which he had once given at Concord.

420. Apparently Emerson had been in correspondence with Keith.

## To George N. Whitman, Concord? November? *c.* 21? 1843

[See a note on Feb. 16, 1844, to William Emerson.]

## To Henry David Thoreau, Concord, November? 23? 1843?

[MS owned by the Henry E. Huntington Library; ph. in CUL. Printed in *The Atlantic,* LXIX, 736 (June, 1892), where Sanborn states this and some other undated notes from Emerson to Thoreau may be of the years "between 1843 and 1847" but that he is inclined to place them as late as the latter year. The date is, I think, pretty accurately indicated by the mention of Brownson's coming to lecture, apparently on the same day. According to the MS records of the Concord Lyceum (in the Concord Free Public Library), Brownson lectured there three times — on Wednesdays, Oct. 26, 1836, and Dec. 28, 1842; and on Thursday, Nov. 23, 1843. *Cf.* also Nov.? *c.* 4? 1843.]

## To George Partridge Bradford, Concord, November *c.* 24, 1843

[Described in Bradford, Brook Farm (MS endorsed Nov., 1843, by Emerson and evidently written about Nov. 26), as received "yesterday" and as repeating an invitation to dine on "the good Friday" (following Thanksgiving Day; *cf.* Dec. 3, 1843).]

## To Sophia Peabody Hawthorne, Concord, November? *c.* 25? 1843?[421]

I shall go to Boston on Tuesday morning, & will carry the book or any pacquet with great pleasure. Here is a large bundle which Mr Brownson bro't the other day for Mr Hawthorne.

R. W. E.

421. MS owned by the Henry E. Huntington Library; ph. in CUL. The address is simply "Mrs Hawthorne." For the date, which remains conjectural, *cf.* the note on Nov.? 23? 1843? If Brownson brought the bundle when he came to lecture, the present letter was presumably written shortly after Dec. 28, 1842, or Nov. 23, 1843, during the Hawthornes' residence in Concord. Emerson's spelling of the name "Hawthorne" was not dependable even at the end of 1843, but the occurrence of the final "e" makes the later date more probable. Some jottings in the margin of the superscription do not seem to offer any help. They are of the sort one would expect of Hawthorne but are apparently not in his hand:

"Jacob & Rachel
Lot & daughters
Going out of the Ark
Ejection from Paradise."

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, November 27, 1843 [422]

Concord 27 Novr 1843

Dear Margaret,

Lidian would most gladly have attended your class last Thursday,[423] but she has been quite ill with cold, debility & other ails to which her flesh is much too much heir to.[424] " I myself was not exempt," [425] but have lost a week in the house; with that horrid Eugene Sue,[426] which is as good as another fever on top of the natural one. I shall never reflect on images of death & sickness without expecting a funeste novel as part of the pathology. I am getting the nightmares off my neck & awaking, if too late, to the dignified duties of the Dial, & remember that I should have long since sent you Sterling's Poems.[427] But truly it was not earlier to be had. Elizabeth Hoar had borrowed it, unknown to me, & was absent until Saturday night. Let me remind you that you always mis-spell Sterling with an *i*. Carlyle writes [428] that he *is* writing Cromwell, that he has seen a good deal of Theodore Parker & Le Baron Russell, likes them both, especially the last, — & they both saw Sterling.

But the capital object of this epistle is to inquire on my own part & on E. Hoar's, whether you go to Waltham, next Sunday? I have promised to go, if you go.[429] E. H is invited whether you go, or not. — Also I should be glad of any intelligence you may have concerning Henry Hedge. I hear, he has gone back to Bangor. Will he come to Boston again. He cannot have read but one lecture. We want him at our Lyceum.[430] Your friend,

Waldo —

422. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Cambridge.

423. See Margaret Fuller, Nov. 12, 1843, in a note on Nov. 5 preceding.

424. *Cf. Hamlet*, III, i.

425. Possibly an echo of Shakespeare's " Madam, yourself are not exempt " in *Richard III*, II, i.

426. Probably *Les Mystères de Paris*, 1842–1843.

427. *Cf.* May 29, 1840.

428. Carlyle, Oct. 31, 1843 (*C–E Corr.*).

429. For this visit, see Dec. 3, 1843.

430. Hedge's lecture before the Boston Lyceum, Nov. 23, 1843, was announced in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of that date. According to the MS records of the Concord Lyceum (in the Concord Free Public Library), Emerson had been elected a curator on Oct. 11, 1843. Hedge seems not to have lectured in Concord during this season.

## To William Emerson, Concord, December 3, 1843 [431]

Concord, December 3, 1843.

Dear William,

I ought, I see plainly, to have answered your letter making inquiries respecting Mother's health earlier: but I have waited to good purpose, for she is making at her own table her own reply. For the rest we are doing tolerably well at home although Lidian has been more than usually confined to her chamber of late. Yet on our Good Friday, as we call it, for we keep festival annually on the day after Thanksgiving, she came down again to dine, & since, has continued to do so. I have just returned with Elizabeth H. from Waltham where we spent this day & last eve. with Mrs R.'s family & Margaret Fuller & George Bradford, a goodly friendly happy company.[432] I do not know that I have any tidings for you. I have promised some scattering lectures this winter, one this week at Providence,[433] then at Springfield,[434] Salem,[435] Boston; [436] then this month the Dial holds me fast; then if I can, my book must be written; and, [I]yesterday, for the second time, I had an application from the bookseller to print a volume of poems [437] — on which proposition which he makes, it seems, at the instance of others, I must sit a little, I — uncertain always whether I have one true spark of that fire which burns in verse. When such a request comes to me, I am inclined to cut all my customary cords & run into woods & desarts — into Berkshire, into Maine, & dwell alone, to know whether so I might not yield myself up to some higher better influences than any I am wont to share in this pewter world. But months & years pass & the aspirant is found in his old place — unchanged?[I] — I trust this sheet will find you cheered & strengthened by Susan's better health. All send dear love & hopes of the best to her & to you.

Farewell —

Waldo —

431. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is in Cabot, II, 480–481.

432. *Cf.* Nov. 27, 1843.

433. Emerson lectured Dec. 6, for the Franklin Lyceum, on "Characteristics of New England," winning some applause from the local press for his eloquent and vigorous common sense (*Providence Daily Journal*, Dec. 6 and 9, 1843).

434. See a note on Feb. 16, 1844, to William Emerson for the earliest lecture there during this winter that I have found.

435. The *Salem Gazette*, Mar. 5, 1844, announced that Emerson would lecture before the Salem Lyceum the following day.

436. See Feb. 26, 1844.

437. Three years more passed before such a volume was actually published.

## To Lidian Emerson, Boston, December 8, 1843 [438]

Boston Winthrop Place
Friday Morn

Dear Lidian,

I was right glad to hear this morn of the mended estate of the hospitallers large & small, mine own Edie especially. I was at Woonsocket safely, & safely at Providence, and mean to go at 1½ P. M. to Newburyport.[439] I cannot remember that I have added any poetry or philosophy to my waybill. What can be the meaning of the deep imperturbable moderation of the good Spirit that rules our life? He administers no wine nor coffee; but fair rain water to all lips, and our experience is so uniformly tame that tis strange we should all cherish the expectation of any thing that is not. I have seen Mrs Jackson & Stimpson & Butler[440] & adjusted most of my errands, & will try to bring home all bakepans. I think we may paint the dining room, if it does not cost more than you say. Abby & Mrs L.[441] think to brave the cold & come to see you next week I have told them, Thursday. But Mrs L. hesitates much at [442]

## To ————————, Concord, December 12, 1843

[Listed in American Art Association, Mar. 31–Apr. 1, 1927, where it is described as referring to lectures.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, December 17, 1843 [443]

Concord, 17 Dec. 1843 –

Dear William

Henry Thoreau brought me his letter from you announcing Susan's improvement and at the same time the illness of Charles.

438. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The Boston postmark is dated Dec. 8, and that day was Friday in 1843, the year indicated by evidence cited below.

439. On Nov. 8, 1843, Bailey E. Borden wrote Emerson from Woonsocket, asking a lecture there just before or after the engagement at Providence. Emerson's endorsement shows he promised to come on Dec. 7, or, by early notice, on the 5th. For the lecture at Providence on Dec. 6, see Dec. 3, 1843. The letter of Oct. 20, 1843, promised a lecture at Newburyport on Dec. 8.

440. Probably H. & F. Stimpson, manufacturers of stoves and tin ware, and B. F. Butler, dealer in stoves (*Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1843).

441. Mrs. Larkin, no doubt.

442. Emerson failed to complete the sentence but mailed the letter nevertheless.

443. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

Mother, who always thinks it long since we have heard from New York, weighs every syllable in these letters, & wishes that you would send her very soon again the most particular accounts of Susan's progress, & of the little boy's health which, we hope, will not long be interrupted. We are all interested, including Elizabeth, in this matter, & all entertain the best hopes. Henry T. thanks you for the purse and says that the Pindar he will return through me, & says that he left nothing of any value at all in his chamber You will please use your discretion with any matters found there. Lidian has been making an important improvement in our dining room by building a new door & making a closet This with paint & washing has turned us into the parlour for a few days & winter repairs are comfortless enough until ended. Now we are replaced again & Abby Adams is a guest for a few days & the Dial (last number but one of that unattractive journal) is nearly printed & that once out I go again to my book which is impatient to be done. With much love to Susan from us all & to the children and the regards of the ladies to Mrs Haven,

Your affectionate brother,
Waldo.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, December 17, 1843 [444]

Concord, 17 December, 1843.

Dear Margaret

My life is made up of excuses, I have thought lately, and I will not add new ones to you — Meantime the deed the affirmation which burns up all apologies delays to be born. The felon Dial, the felon lectures, friend, wife, child, house, woodpile, each in turn is the guilty cause why life is postponed If life were a hoax, what an admirable devil must he be who puts it on us, delay breeding delay & obstruction obstruction until the seventy years are fully told, & we ar [445] bowed out before we have even begun. Truly the founders of Oxford fellowships & of celibate orders & the administrators of oaths of silence & of solitude were wise endeavourers & many failures should not discredit their prudence. Deception endless deception, — tis wonderful how rich the world is in this opium. The inexorable demand of every hour, of every eye that is fixed on us, of every friendly tongue, is that we

444. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Cambridge.

445. There was not room for the word at the edge of the MS.

lead the impossible right life; and every step in that direction has a ridiculous & an insane appearance. It requires an enormous perspective, some centuries perhaps, to correct these obliquities & wild refractions of our vision, but we cannot wait for the aesthetic gratification, but must keep the road to Heaven though it lead through Bedlam. It is lucky for the peace of Boston & all honest cities that the scholars & the religious generally are such puny bodies; if they had any vigour answerable to their perception, they would start aside every day from expectation & their own prescription, and destroy the peace of all burgesses. For me, I have only impulse enough to brood now & then on the conditions favorable to thought & life, but not enough yet to make me either pirate or poet. And this " Not Yet " is the arch deceiver of all the ages, and when we sleep will deceive our children. — Will it be any consolation to you in these clouded days — which you describe [446] — of your muse, to hear the confessions of weakness? No no we have very quickly enough of the litanies of " miserable sinners." — I am, as always, so now newly bound to you, for this good deed of yours to Sterling,[447] which you so depreciate. I make up my mind that it will be good. Yes, do write of Mrs Child's book, a thankful sentence.[448] Your copy, it is said, has disappeared, then I will send you mine. Mr Lane was here lately again for two or three days having been arrested for his taxes as he stopped with the Harvard Stage at the tavern. He declined bringing any friend to answer for him & was put into jail. Rockwood Hoar heard of it & paid the debt, & when I came home from seeing you in Boston I found him at my house. He was sad & indisposed. Now he & Mr Alcott think they have been wrong in all these years with Pestalozzi in lauding the Maternal instinct, & the Family, &c. These they now think are the very mischief. These are selfish & oppose the establishment of the community which stands on universal love: You shall see.

Ellery is actually chopping now for more than a week past oak trees in Lincoln Woods. He puts all poets & especially all prophets far far in the background. Your friend

Waldo —

446. In her letter of Dec. 12, 1843 (*Memoirs,* Boston, I, 224). The quoted phrase in the following sentence is doubtless from the Anglican version of " The Litany," in *The Book of Common Prayer* (*cf.* Nov. 19, 1853, to William Emerson).

447. See Nov. 5, 1843.

448. Lydia Maria Child's *Letters from New York,* 1st series, 1843, was noticed briefly in *The Dial* for Jan., 1844. Cooke credits the review to Emerson but is doubtful.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, December 20? 1843 [449]

Dear Margaret,

Suddenly at the right moment the lost book [450] turns up, but I have nothing to send with it but good wishes. Lidian shall tell you how smartly she has trimmed her old dining room [451] now in mid-winter & in the spring you will come & see if it be not more comfortable. Do you know also how narrowly we have escaped the invasion of that last hearth by a stove? The stove was actually bought [452] & brought home but Aunt Elizabeth's prayers & Mr Hawthorn's Article [453] came in aid of the domestic Lar at his last gasp & the stove was sent into my study to my great advantage. I have letters tonight from my friendly Waldo in N. Y. just on the eve of departure for the Hamilton Forest [454] where he goes as he thinks to " severe study " much apparatus of books having gone before him. He writes most resolutely & ardently as if a great Muse had just now shone on him & he could not utter what he has been revolving – and thinks in that wild boundless country he shall find words to his dream. A Mr Redwood Fisher of N. Y. city he speaks of who amidst politics & the Post Office in which he has a place [455] he had found time for literature & opinions of a happier complexion than other men.

W.

Wednesday Eve

## To Charles Lane, Concord? December *c.* 20, 1843

[Lane, Harvard, Mass., Dec. 18, 1843, asks Emerson to take over Fruitlands as his agent. Lane, Dec. 22, 1843, acknowledges Emerson's prompt reply and thanks him for his " acquiescence." Lane also says that he has written to May, asking him to execute a transfer deed to Emerson.]

449. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Dec. 20 fell on Wednesday in 1843, and evidence cited below shows that the month was December and makes the 20th probable.

450. *Cf.* Dec. 17, 1843, to Margaret Fuller.

451. *Cf.* Dec. 17, 1843, to William Emerson.

452. *Cf.* the note on Stimpson and Butler in Dec. 8, 1843.

453. Hawthorne complained in " Fire-worship " (*The United States Magazine, and Democratic Review*, Dec., 1843) of " this almost universal exchange of the open fire-place for the cheerless and ungenial stove."

454. On Feb. 12, 1844, Giles Waldo wrote from Columbia County, N. Y., that he and Tappan had been in the forest since Christmas.

455. *The New-York City and Co-partnership Directory*, 1843, lists Redwood Fisher as at the lower post office.

### To ————————, Concord, December 26, 1843

[MS listed in American Art Association, Mar. 31–Apr. 1, 1927, where the letter is described as referring to Emerson's projected lectures on New England.]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, December 31, 1843

[MS owned by RWEMA. Printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

### To Mary Moody Emerson, Concord, *c.* December? 1843?

[See the note on *c.* Oct.? 1843. The same evidence points less convincingly to a third letter, probably of Jan. *c.* 15, which, as Aunt Mary's letter of Jan. 18, 1844, seems to show, contained a passage suggestive of the later poem "Days." The days, she agrees, are little gods, coming from the Father, but many of them, upon touching earth, receive dingy, feeble aspects, some robed like harlequin, some habited like gaiety or pomp.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Concord? 1843?[456]

Sat P. M.

Dear Lidian

I do not find the "Threnody" in either of my portfolios: you have it somewhere already, I think. and I am not fit to look for a single verse: So your pleasure in that, must be postponed, like all my things, until after one week more. We are in general excellently well, & yours.

Waldo

### To Sophia Peabody Hawthorne, Concord? *c.* 1843

[MS, possibly incomplete, owned by Mr. W. T. H. Howe; ph. in CUL. Printed in Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, p. 186, where it is described as written "about 1843." In the printed version "O excellent lady" becomes "and excellent lady."]

### To Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Concord? *c.* 1843

[Incompletely printed in *The Nation*, May 4, 1882, p. 376, where it is described as written during the last year of *The Dial* (July, 1843–Apr., 1844); published somewhat more fully in *The Outlook*, LXXIV, 221 (May 23, 1903).]

456. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is simply "Mrs Lidian Emerson." The date "1843?" has been endorsed in another hand and seems as reasonable a conjecture as can be made. Phrases suggestive of lines in "Threnody" had begun to appear in letters almost immediately after Waldo's death, in Jan., 1842, but the poem was not completed for some time.

# 1844

## To Thomas L. Dunnell, Concord, January 4, 1844[1]

Concord, 4 Jan$^{y}$. 1844 –

My dear Sir,

Our programme seems to involve as voluminous a correspondence as a diplomatic protocol. I was so busy yesterday that I could not get minutes enough to answer, which I regret now that I think how short is the time. Let the days stand then, as you name them, 8$^{th}$ 9$^{th}$ 15$^{th}$ & 19$^{th}$. until I come,[2] & afterwards also, if I can not show you anything better.

For subjects, the general subject is New England. Lecture I. Origin & national genius of the New England people; Lecture II. Trade, Manners & Customs; III. (was read at Providence) IV. Political & social causes now active: and, V. Recent literary & spiritual influences operating on the mind of New England.

You shall use your discretion as to the announcing of the special topics. I may get you better titles for the two last, before we have done. Yours with great regard,

R. W. Emerson

T. L. Dunnell.

## To Foster Hooper, Concord? January 4, 1844

[Hooper, Fall River, Mass., Jan. 5, 1844, acknowledges Emerson's letter of the 4th and accepts his proposition to come on Jan. 14.]

1. MS owned by the Essex Institute; ph. in CUL. *The Providence Directory*, 1844, lists Thomas L. Dunnell as president of the Franklin Lyceum. *Cf.* also Jan. 25, 1843, to Lidian Emerson.

2. The *Providence Daily Journal*, Jan. 8, 1844, announced the four lectures for the dates here given and with almost exactly the same titles here listed. This advertisement was repeated frequently during the course, and there were special announcements on Jan. 15 and 19 for the lectures given on those days. On the 10th, the same paper commended Emerson, much as it had done in the preceding December, for proving himself no dreamer after all but a close observer.

## To William Emerson, Boston, January 17, 1844[3]

Boston, 17 Jan$^{y}$ 1844

Dear William,

I was very sorry to think how remiss our writing on this side the sound had grown and Mamma at once took her pen to redress the balance. But so much of my correspondence in all quarters is of the class of literature & sentiment that I am accustomed to wait for favouring times & events — a perilous custom. The Almanack is much safer in almost all cases. Thanks now for all your good news of your home which has sensibly relieved us all. We think the tidings of Susan better than we dared expect. Indeed Mamma has been very sad and anxious about her for a long time. Now she shall be a well woman, we strongly confide. Thanks for your remembrance & counsels in my affairs. As to the book of poems,[4] I shall not resist the bookseller & his prompters, as soon as I have once despatched my new book that now grows gradually under my eye. For the bank stock — I believe I told you that Abel Adams had consolidated all my debt into a loan of 3500 at 4 per cent at the Globe Bank. Meantime the City Bk stock has risen from 85 to 96 per cent & he thinks it better to let it rise to par, if it will, & then sell enough to pay this debt to begin with; but until now both he & specially Charles Sprague, have advised me not to sell it & now they think their advice approved by the event. I told him of your proposition of which he seemed to think well but I shall not ask him to act on it until he advises to sell to pay this debt.

I am lately turned mountebank again & do lecture my fellow citizens far or near every night but one of this week for which service they on their part promise to facilitate my housekeeping. Our Concord people are in grand spirits with their railroad. which promises confidently to go to Montreal & Fitchburg. Stock is above par in the market. I gladly remember on my part that before the 4 July the way to Concord will be open[5] from New York and Susan shall never need to consider our hills as a barrier. A great event it must be to you to lose Willie for the time.

3. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

4. William Emerson, Dec. 18, endorsed 1843 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson): "What answer have you made to the proposition to print your verses? I trust not a negative, yet if you say yes, I will take leave to recommend that you appoint some musical friend (of course not an Emerson) to trim your metres according to some canon."

5. *Cf.* June 17, 1844.

The best result reward the sacrifice! Ellen & Edith are great joys to us, and Edith often reminds me of Haven. Dear love to the beautiful boy! and to his brothers & to Susan from Your affectionate brother

Waldo

Fruitlands, ah me! is broken up Mr & Mrs Alcott will probably go to Brook Farm Mr Lane & his son have for the present *joined the Shakers.*[6]

## To Abel Adams, Concord? January 26, 1844

[Acknowledged in Adams, Boston, Jan. 29, 1844, which reports Adams's handling of Emerson's business affairs.]

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, January 30, 1844[7]

[1]Concord, January 30, 1844.[1]

Thou steadfast loving wise & dear friend, I am always astonished at thy faith & truth — I cannot tell whether they be more divine or human.

6. Samuel J. May, Lexington, Mass., Jan. 13, 1844, said Lane and Alcott had separated and that the Alcotts had left the place, which had become wholly Lane's.

7. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–IV are in Cabot, II, 483–484. I conjecture that this is the same letter briefly recorded in *Journals,* VI, 488, as " to Mr. F." The address is to Margaret Fuller, who had written two days earlier:

" Cambridge 28th Jany 1844.

" Dearest Waldo,

" I know you are not a ' marker of days ' nor do in any way encourage those useless pains which waste the strength needed for our nobler purposes, yet it seems to me this season can never pass without opening anew the deep wound. . I do not find myself at all consoled for the loss of that beautiful form which seemed to me the realization of hope more than any other. I miss him when I go to your home, I miss him when I think of you there; you seem to me lonely as if he filled to you a place which no other ever could in any degree. And I cannot wish that any should. He seemed, as every human being ought, a thought fresh, original; no other can occupy the same place. Little Edith has been injured in my affections by being compared with him. She may have the same breath in her, and I should like to love her in the same way, but I do not like to have her put in his place or likened to him: that only makes me feel that she is not the same and do her injustice. I hope you will have another son, for I perceive that men do not feel themselves represented to the next generation by *daughters,* but I hope, if you do, there will be no comparisons made, that Waldo will always be to us your eldest born, and have his own niche in our thoughts, and have no image intruded too near him.

" I think, too, that by such delicacy, and not substituting in any way what is inferior or at any rate different, we shall best be entitled to see the end of the poem, for I fully expect to know more of what he used to suggest in my mind. — I think of him a great deal and feel at this distance of time that there was no fancy, no exaggeration in the feelings he excited. His beauty was real, was substantial I have all his looks before me now. I have just been reading a note of yours which he brought me in the

How have you adopted the life of your poor friend and the lives that are dear to him, so easily, & with a love at once connate & prophetic,

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red room, and I see him just as he looked that day, a messenger of good tidings, an angel.

" I wish, if you are willing, I may have a copy of your poem about him, even if it is not finished I will confine it as strictly to myself, as you may desire. Elizabeth would copy it, I know, for me, if you were willing I should have it, and do not like to do it yourself.

" I believe you never saw Richard's lines; that they were shown to Lidian, but not to you. At the risk of your having seen, I will copy them, for though rude and simple I think they describe so truly some of the feelings that were inspired.

" Thou fairy child, a gift so sweet
So swiftly taken; as if meet
Ere we may come, for heaven's abode
Wast lightly freed from mortal load.
How fair wast thou! on thy high brow
In heavenly lineament —
Was writ with such significance
That they exchanged an asking glance
Who knew to read the fingering of heaven
But now, as in Belshazzar's hall
The Chaldees failed the heavenly call
To tell, as it o'ertasked their powers
To fathom what in thee was ours.

Thoughtful and sad, thy earnest eye
Sparkled the question ever — *Why?*
The many bask in nature's rays,
But in the centre passed thy days,
Unspeaking, oft thou seemed'st the thought
A sage had into marble wrought;
Now had concentred here the sage
The fruit of all his thoughtful age.
Perchance when God thy spirit breathed
And myriad charms about thee wreathed,
He meant thee for a future race,
Whereto we grow with lazy pace;
But too soon he gave thee birth
Into the yet unready earth.
So he has ta'en thee from the scene
Back to the courts of heaven serene &c —

" I leave out the words that are less expressive. But several traits are full of expression to me. Especially as the form ' fruit of the sage's concentred thought ' thus he always seemed to me the child of my friend's mind, born to fulfil his life, for he too always asks the Why though with the same calmness.

" I suppose Lidian told you of Miss Parsons's reading a letter of yours under Mesmeric influence (of which you make light, so wittily) but as she may not remember all she heard I shall try to write down exactly what James & Sarah told me about it. It was at James's house & only themselves & the Buchanans present. She was tried

which delights & admonishes me at the same time. I am glad of guardian angels, but life is a treasure of soberer worth under the fanning of their wings.

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with five or six autograph letters. On one (of General Wayne's) she passed what they supposed to be a false judgment. On one of Miss Martineau's, — she said ' here are so many impressions and so entangled, one coming so quick after the other I cannot feel any thing clearly.' They asked her if it was not a good person, she said ' the person means well, but would be likely to deceive himself ' — A letter of J. S. Buckminster written when he was a boy being put into her hand, she was averse to hold it & said ' it is good for nothing throw it away ' On their urging her more & wishing to know the moral qualities of the person she said ' he seemed to her false ' & would have no more to do with it. This at first amazed the spectators, but afterwards, considering that the letter was one of those written *to order* about being ' schooled by his honored papa ' and the like they thought there might be ground for the impressions of the magnetized in this instance, though so contrary to their expectations.

" One of Mr Alston's letters affected her at once making her very pale & sick. Buchanan took it from her, saying ' it might injure her as the person was recently dead '!! But James observed that, on a previous occasion, she had been very agreeably affected. by one of Dr Channing's.

" Then was given her one from you to James containing a copy of ' The Humble Bee.' She expressed pleasure and serenity at once from this contact. ' The writer ' said she ' is holy, true, and brave '

" Buchanan, — Brave! how do you mean? Would he fight for the Greeks? —

" — He does not fight with such weapons; he has arms of his own.

" Buchanan — Arms of reasoning, I suppose.

" — Is there not something above reasoning? —

" Sarah said that in all she said about you, but especially in her way of putting this question she assumed a tone and emphasis that reminded her of you.

" She expressed pleasure in other ways I have forgotten, but then said, He is not perfect, though: there is something wanting.

" James urged her to name the ' fault '

" — It is not fault, it is defect — it is underdevelopment: it puts me in mind of a circle with a dent in it.

" They could not get her beyond this for sometime, & at last Buchanan proposed, on her saying she could not *criticize* the person, to magnetize the organ of self esteem that she might overlook him. — You cannot get me up so high that I can overlook him. I might many, but not him. At last, after much questioning, she said with apparent difficulty ' If he could sympathize with himself, he could with every one ' — which is, in my opinion, a most refined expression of the truth, whether obtained by clairvoyance or any other means.

" Her hand was then placed on the poem. This J. & S. said was to them the most interesting part of the scene, for if they could suppose her to have got from sympathy with what was in the minds of those present what she had said previously, they could not now, for they had nothing in their thoughts but expectations whether she would know it to be a poem and pronounce on its poetical merits.

" As she said nothing for some time, J. — asked her whether that was something good she had under her hand.

" She expressed displeasure. Why did you speak to me, she said, I was not thinking of such things. I was in the country in a sweet place, like the woods at Hingham. —

[11] When last Saturday night Lidian said, " It is two years today — " [8] I only heard the bellstroke again. I have had no experiences no progress to put me into better intelligence with my calamity than when it was new.[11] I once had occasion to transfer before the Probate Judge the guardianship of an Irish child who had been the ward of my brother Charles, to a new guardian, a gentleman in Boston. A poor Irishman who was her Uncle wished himself to have the charge of her little estate & opposed the new appointment but his counsel — seeing the persons interested, forsook him, — the judge slighted his objections, & appointed

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— She said it was a place where you would want to lie down on the grass, — not sit down.

" They changed the letter for one of Aaron Burr's

" She expressed aversion, and for a time would not hold it. — When she did, she made some good remarks, that he was a man all for ambition, yet fond of his family — very fond. — Would he be successful with ladies, said J. Too much so, she said.

" Then she laughed and said ' How he would look down on the last one I was thinking of!

" J. — And how would that one regard him

" — He is so high above him, that he could not even see him!

" On their questioning more, she said, I am only guessing now, the other one I saw, a form seemed before me.

" Buchanan Can you not guess whose form?

" — It seemed something like Mr Alcott, but not exactly. It might have been Mr Emerson, but I do not know about him well enough to tell.

" So much for the clairvoyante, who seems to me a very good and innocent girl. — I am going to see her tried myself, next week, probably, this time I believe I have set down exactly what (not all) that was told me.

" This is the first time I have been able to write a word without pain, or read either for four days, during which my head has ached day and night. So today is as good as heaven to me. Yet, you may imagine I accomplish nothing, at least outwardly. These last weeks I have been much happier than in the month of dark December, for I have enjoyed a consciousness of inward ripening and accessions of light. It cannot always be so bitter cold; when it is not, I hope to be able to use my eyes & hands also. Meanwhile expect from me no good works, but write me yourself one letter and think affectionately of your friend Margaret.

" Is your lecture in town the 7th Febv. What is Mr Lane's address. I shall not write to him now, but should like to be able when I feel like it. His letter has the true deep tone of his real self, & it is pleasant to see that when he is in his true place, he cannot help seeing *you* "

One of the endorsements on this letter of Margaret Fuller's names the clairvoyant as Anna Parsons. For Anna Q. T. Parsons and her activities as a reader of character through " psychic impressions " in the manner described by Margaret Fuller, see *Letters from Brook Farm 1844–1847 by Marianne Dwight,* ed. Amy L. Reed, 1928, pp. xiv and 181–191, *et passim.* In the absence of detailed information about the growth of " Threnody," it seems probable that the last stanza which is quoted above had some slight influence on certain lines toward the end of the fifth section of Emerson's elegy.

8. The letters of Jan. 27, 1842, tell of Waldo's death on that day.

the gentleman, & the poor Roger could only say to all of us strangers, as he did very distinctly, " I am not satisfied." I am often in his condition; I feel all his impotence; and have only to say after my fashion, 'I am not satisfied.' [III] I read lately in Drummond of Hawthornden, of Ben Jonson's narrative to him of the death of his son who died of the plague in London: Ben Jonson was at the time in the country, & saw the Boy in a vision, " of a manly shape, & of that growth he thinks he shall be at the resurrection." [9] That same preternatural maturity did my beautiful statue assume the day after death, & so it often comes to me to tax the world with frivolity. — But the inarticulateness of the Supreme Power how can we insatiate hearers perceivers & thinkers ever reconcile ourselves unto? It deals all too highly with us low-levelled & -weaponed men. Does the Power labour, as men do, with the impossibility of perfect explication, that always the hurt is of one kind & the compensation of another. My divine temple which all angels seemed to love to build & which was shattered in a night, I can never rebuild, — and is the facility of entertainment from thought or friendship or affairs, an amends? Rather it seems like a cup of Somnus or of Momus. Yet [III] flames forever the holy light for all eyes, & [IV] the nature of things against all appearances & specialties whatever assures us of eternal benefit. But these affirmations are tacit & secular. if spoken, they have a hollow & canting sound; And thus all our being, dear friend, is evermore adjourned. Patience & Patience & Patience! I will try, since you ask it, to copy my rude dirges [10] to my Darling & send them to you. [IV] And warm thanks for Richard's, which I had neither seen nor heard & which are original with love & thought. Lidian also desires me to thank you in her behalf for your love of the Child & of her husband & she rejoices in your existence & powers. Your affectionate Waldo —

I enclose one of the M. Library tickets for Wednesday 7 Feb[y] which is my evening. [11] I was mortified to find that the " Ethnical Scripture " [12] which I gave you at Cambridge was printed on, which I did not find till I came home. I have since been to the printer & am to have more that are not. —

9. *Notes of Ben Jonson's Conversations with William Drummond of Hawthornden*, 1842, pp. 19–20.

10. " Threnody."

11. The *Daily Evening Transcript* of Feb. 7, 1844, announced " The Young American " before the Mercantile Library Association at the Odeon for that evening.

12. *Cf.* Apr. 19, 1844.

## To John Sterling, Concord, January 31, 1844

[MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Printed in *The Atlantic,* LXXX, 31–32 (July, 1897), and in *A Correspondence,* pp. 78–82.]

## To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord, February 1, 1844

[Printed in *Letters from Ralph Waldo Emerson to a Friend,* pp. 54–55.]

## To William Henry Furness, Concord, February 12, 1844

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship,* p. 24.]

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, February 16, 1844 [13]

Friday 3¼ P M
16 Feb

Dear Margaret,

Just now returned home from the Connecticutt river,[14] I find a letter from Boston arrived with yours adjourning my Exhortation to another probably the next Sunday following.[15] Mr Lane being in town & ready for this first Sunday, I had myself proposed to the movers that my day should be postponed. I now see by your letter [16]

13. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Feb. 16 fell on Friday in 1844, the year indicated by other evidence. The address is to Margaret Fuller at Cambridge.

14. See the letter of the same date to William Emerson.

15. See the letter of Feb. 26, 1844.

16. Apparently one I have not seen, but two weeks earlier Margaret Fuller had written upon subjects relating closely to those touched upon in the present letter to her:

" Boston, 2d Feby 1844.
" 3 Louisburg Square
" My dear Waldo

" I gratefully received your packet; other than this, there is no time to say. At James Clarke's there are to be, next Monday evening *Mesmeric* experiments of reading letters &c tried on the same Lady of whom I wrote you in my last. Sarah desires me to invite your presence, in case you shall or can be in town so early as Monday. No one is to be there but myself & S. &. A, with whom I am staying.

" At any rate we shall be at your lecture Wednesday eves & go after to Miss Peabody's who has invited E. Hooper, A Shaw and other bright forms.

" Perhaps, if you come to town in the morning we shall see you here in aftn of that day.

" With love to Lidian yr affec[o]

" Margaret "

Margaret Fuller kept for a long time to her purpose to bring Emerson face to face with Anna Parsons. The following excerpt is extant in a copy made by Emerson and labeled by him " M. F." and " To R W E Oct 14 1844 ":

what a cloud of mischances I have thus entered. As far as I know however all these brilliant friends will keep sweet & brilliant for a week longer, or a fortnight, if it should go so far – *all* except the symphony.[17] So I write now to Sam W. that I am not to come & I will also write a note either to Mrs Hooper or to Anna Shaw,[18] that shall excuse us both to them both: & so I hope to save you any further uneasiness than the contemplation of my suicidal blindness to golden opportunities. And now thanks for the good offices done, and I desire to lose no one of these interviews you promise me. As for the metaphysics & ethics of the personal & mesmeric question you have put, I will not now enter so deep waters lest the mail leave my letter.

Your affectionate

Waldo

## To William Emerson, Concord, February 16, 1844[19]

Concord 16 Feby 1844

Dear William,

Just this P. M. returned from the Connecticutt river whither I have been for three lectures[20] I find Mr Ward setting out for

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"Sarah Clarke had fully intended to invite our new Ecstatica for Monday Evening, & submit to your eye the same revelations as to ours, when she was informed by Caroline that you had spoken of such experiments as 'peeping through the keyhole,' & such like: Sarah then says, 'Have I a right to expose this delicate girl, whom I highly respect, to the scrutiny of one before whom she is to appear as a suspected person?'

"M. It is to be remembered that many of his friends have been obliged to approach Mr E. in that character. I myself occupied it opposite him for some years.

"*Sarah.* Yes, but his friends consent of their own free will to meet him thus, because of their value for him. *We* shall put Miss Parsons into this position, while she will suppose herself opening her heart to friendly ears, & minds inclined to trust.

"*M.* I do not like to have Mr E. deprived of the opportunity. Shall I write to him, & ask him if he can go to look, believing the actor, as all law divine or human demands, innocent until proved guilty?

"*Sarah.* And make him aware that she neither makes a show of herself, nor seeks excitement, but comes to our house as to that of a friend, where she may expand, & give pleasure by the use of what seem to us real & uncommon powers."

For Margaret Fuller's attempt about this time to interest Emerson in mesmerism, see also her letter of Jan. 28, in a note on Jan. 30, 1844.

17. Apparently Beethoven's *Seventh Symphony*. The *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Feb. 16 and earlier, 1844, announced that this would be performed by the Boston Academy of Music on Feb. 17.

18. I have found no further evidence of a letter to Ward or to either Ellen Hooper or Anna Shaw.

19. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

20. On Nov. 19, 1843, George N. Whitman wrote from Cabotville, Mass., asking Emerson to lecture before the Cabotville, Chicopee Falls, and Springfield lyceums

N. Y. so I obey my own & mother's wish to say, All Hail, brother! if there be space for no more. We are all well, with some domestic incidents too minute & too long to begin to tell. We long for more intelligence of Susan's convalescence, to whom all send love. You asked about my book [21] "The Poet" is only one of its chapters though much the longest The others that are ended or nearly so are "Life" & "Character." – quite obituary sound. Nelly insists that her little gift to Haven shall go though it has failed twice already – & here its fit companions are the Lilliputs which Mr Thoreau imported & now returns by my hands. Mr Adams has sold 36 shares of my City stock at .96, and paid my whole debt of 3500 at the Globe Bk. Now therefore I am open to advice. In haste lest my opportunity escape, Yours,

Waldo

Lidian & Mother *will* be remembered.

Nelly says that her book has been rolled up since New Years day in a old black printed paper & has got soiled.

### To N. B. Perkins, Concord? February? *c.* 22? 1844

[Perkins, Salem, Mass., Feb. 20, 1844, asked for another lecture before the Salem Lyceum on Mar. 6. Emerson's endorsement shows he answered "Yes."]

### To Margaret Fuller, Concord, February 26, 1844 [22]

Concord, 26 Feby 1844

Dear Margaret,

It is high time that I should report myself to my tutelar Genius. Vouchsafe then to know that I am due at Amory Hall next Sunday,[23] & mean to spend it under the auspices of the Lares at Louisburg Square; [24] and do moreover trust that you will be in town that day. I do not think to do much that is new in my Sunday's Lecture,: sheets as

during the season, preferably on Jan. 9, 10, and 11. Emerson's endorsement shows he answered he would come Jan. 23, 24, and 25, or in either of the two following weeks. The *Springfield Gazette*, Feb. 14, 1844, announced that he would lecture at the Town Hall on the 15th.

21. For publication, see Oct. 14? 1844.

22. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

23. The *Boston Courier*, Mar. 1, 1844, announced that Emerson would lecture on the morning of the 3d – "and (it is hoped) in the evening also" – in the series of Sunday lectures at Amory Hall. In the afternoon the discussion of non-resistance was to be "continued." According to *Journals*, VI, 497, Emerson's subject was "New England Reformers."

24. That is, at Sam Ward's home.

yellow as gold lie on the table before me, beseeching me to spare white paper & ink! When I write I perversely turn my back on ethics, & write on Nature, Poets, Life, — I can write on anything *but* ethics, with my froward pen.

What now for the new Dial, new & last. I have an article on Kant from an unknown hand which I mean to print.[25] I have papers from Lane on Shakers, & Life in the woods.[26] Ellery must finish his "Letters" I have good poems from him. Miss Peabody has sent me the first sheets of a piece on Fourier, which looks printable. I may print my "Young American," or another thing nearly as long — And though you have been so magnificent to the last number, yet *the* Last Number must not go quite unadorned: Something you must send. What?

You will think me, O much performing friend, the spoiled child of luxury if I should tell you how gay to me is the prospect of liberation from the Dial and how pleasant is the promise of the literary labours before me, when this is gone. One would think it was the American Encyclopaedia that was in hand & not our poor little pamphlet. Farewell.

Thine,
Waldo.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, February 29, 1844

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

## To James Freeman Clarke, Concord, March 1, 1844[27]

Concord, 1 March, 1844

My dear Sir,

I am sorry to learn that Rev. Mr Means of this town had agreed with Dr Bacon of New Haven and, as he supposed, given sufficient notice to the Curators here that Dr B. should speak to our Lyceum

25. According to Cooke's list, "Immanuel Kant," in *The Dial* for Apr., 1844, was by James Elliot Cabot.

26. Lane's contributions to the final number of *The Dial* were "Life in the Woods" and "Millennial Church." Channing's five pieces included Letters XIV–XXVIII of "The Youth of the Poet and the Painter." Elizabeth Peabody's "Fourierism" duly appeared, and Emerson's "The Young American," and Margaret Fuller's "Dialogue."

27. MS owned by Mr. James F. Clarke; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to "Rev. James Freeman Clarke" at Boston. Emerson made a new proposal in the letter of Mar. 4 following. The records of the Concord Lyceum show that the Rev. James Means of Concord was himself the lecturer on Mar. 6, that Clarke delivered his "An-

on the second Wednesday of March. We had empowered Mr Means to correspond with Dr B. but did not know the right day. As Dr B. is at a distance, & his lecture here is part of a chain of lectures embracing other lyceums between here & Connecticutt, I hope it will not be inconvenient to you to give us your lecture on the 3d Wednesday (20 March). And I remember that you preferred a later day, in our first conversation. Unless I hear from you to the contrary, I will consider it settled so.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

J. F. Clarke.

### To James Freeman Clarke, Concord, March 4, 1844

[MS listed in C. F. Libbie & Co., Nov. 10 and 11, 1904, where it is described as "in regard to the date of a lecture." Two letters from Clarke, both written at Boston, Mar. 5, 1844, and both owned by Mr. James F. Clarke, relate to the lecture engagement referred to in Mar. 1, 1844. The first is in answer to that letter. The second acknowledges, as just received, "one from yourself in which you ask me to come next week."]

### To William Henry Furness, Concord, March 12, 1844

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship*, pp. 30–32.]

### To Charles Lane, Concord? March 14, 1844

[Mentioned in Lane, Harvard, Mass., Mar. 15, 1844, which shows that Emerson's letter was about the settlement of Lane's business affairs.]

### To Burrill Curtis, Concord? March *c.* 26, 1844

[Mentioned in *Early Letters of George Wm. Curtis*, pp. 160–161. This letter, received, in New York apparently, on Mar. 27, 1844, told of "a promising place near Concord." For the Curtises in Concord, see Apr. 19, 1844.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, April 1, 1844[28]

Concord, 1 April, 1844

Dear William,

Your letter & its enclosed order for $174.00 were safely received this morning. We had begun to accuse ourselves some days ago in this house for the slowness of our pen Staten Island-ward and the

nexation of Texas" on the 13th, and that the Rev. Leonard Bacon appeared on the 20th (MS in the Concord Free Public Library).

28. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

rather when by careful mutual examination it appeared that though all the three delinquents had received the pacquet which arrived here a fortnight ago not one of them had put pen to paper on the subject. Mamma had rejoiced & Lidian had rejoiced in every word of good omen in Susan's letter it was the occasion of joy & a sort of private thanksgiving in the house. but Mamma & Lidian made no record, & I was abandoned to the grinding out of Dials. Mamma pleases her eyes with her handsome cricket or cushion but I think it is never so far profaned as to touch the floor; it sits in state on a chair — Ellen & Edith revolving. Lidian unfolds to me & celebrates with kindness & hope a fair blanket for which the summer may bring an user; and Edith has been clothed once in a cloak that fits her nicely & she is only waiting for fine spring days to trot in it abroad. Lidian begs me to write her thanks to Susan for these fair remembrances & to express her joy in her restoration to the dear boys & to you: in which I heartily join. What shall I tell you of us? — Mother has been as well as usual this winter. Her habit of staying at home and my hodiernal & perennial confinement to my tasks, with Lidian's feeble health & mind preoccupied with household cares, — leave her some lonely hours. But she gives Ellen " a school " every morning & teaches her to spell & to sew which is very good for the girl, &, I doubt not, is good for Mother's entertainment. As for my book its perpetual impediment, namely, the Dial, is now come to an end. I have sent away the last proof sheets, and will edit no more Dials. Three good chapters which will almost fill a volume, are ready or nearly so for the printer. But I wish to have a book this time if the Muses will, which shall not displease me in a month after its publication. So give me a little grace that I may have the less shame. The young Curtises of Providence or New York (of Brook Farm formerly) are to live in Concord, this summer,[29] with Capt. Nathan Barrett, and Mr Alcott talks of removing hither again from Harvard.[30] Then we shall with railroad be very near to Waltham. Geo P. Bradford is already here [31] an inmate of of the house & we find him a very friendly power. Concord in its old age grows green again & with unexpected flowers & fruits.
Come dear brother & sister & see.

Yours affectionately
Waldo.

29. See Apr. 19, 1844.

30. After leaving Fruitlands (see Jan. 17, 1844), the Alcott family lived for a time in a house at Harvard before they returned to Concord (Sanborn and Harris, II, 389).

31. That Bradford had expected to set up his school equipment in Concord early in March is shown by his letters to Emerson dated Feb. 16, 1844, and Feb. 27.

## To William Henry Furness, Concord, April 4, 1844

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship,* pp. 33–34.]

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, April 11, 1844 [32]

Concord April 11 1844

Dear Margaret,

I hoped to see you lately in Boston; but you have found novelty & recreation in New York, and at your mother's departure I learn had not returned. But Fourier & Miller [33] & Dr Buchanan [34] will not heal us of our deep wound, any more than Spurzheim and the Flying Man, to whom they have succeeded. I think it is part of our lesson to give a formal consent to what is farcical, and to pick up our living & our virtue amidst what is so ridiculous, hardly deigning a smile, and certainly not vexed.

When I was in town last, I had a conversation with James Brown about the " Journey," [35] and he said, he & Little would take the book & print it at their own risk, and as soon as it had paid its expenses, would give you ten cents on every copy (of all the copies sold). If the book should not sell, you would lose nothing: if 1000 copies sold, you would gain $100. You would not sell the copy-right, but only one edition to them. This he said was his bargain with Mrs Lee [36] & some other person I have forgotten. It is safer but not so profitable if there be any profit as we will not doubt as to undertake the edition yourself. Write me word of the progress & readiness of the MSS. and what the New Yorkers

32. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Cambridge.

33. An article on Fourierism had appeared in the last number of *The Dial* (*cf.* a note on Feb. 26, 1844). For Miller, see Nov. 5, 1843.

34. Dr. Joseph Rodes Buchanan had long since gained some notoriety through his experiments on the basis of the phrenological theories of Gall and Spurzheim. It was apparently this Buchanan who attended the mesmeric demonstration described by Margaret Fuller in her letter of Jan. 28 (see a note on Jan. 30, 1844); and doubtless it was he who announced three public lectures on neurology to be delivered in Boston on Feb. 8–10 of this year (*Boston Daily Advertiser,* Feb. 6, 1844).

35. *Summer on the Lakes; cf.* Apr. 24, 1844.

36. Probably Eliza Buckminster Lee, whose *Life of Jean Paul Frederic Richter* was apparently first published by Charles C. Little & James Brown in 1842. But possibly the Hannah F. Lee mentioned in Dec. 30, 1844, is meant. She published numerous books.

advised. I will come to Boston at any time & make an agreement with either of these two firms L & B or J. M. & Co, if you will.

Ellery is moving, is removed this day — I am so glad — for his lonely geography has made him a prisoner I think every night that he has been in Concord. The great sun shines on us all with joy & power imparting both. Yours affectionately

Waldo. —

To Deborah Colesworthy, Concord? April *c.* 19, 1844

[Mentioned in Apr. 19, 1844.]

To Margaret Fuller, Concord, April 19, 1844 [37]

Concord, 19 April, 1844.

Dear Margaret,

I am very glad to hear you will come & see me [38] with Caroline & Sarah Clarke I will expect you daily, yet you shall have a little better time possibly avoiding all accidents of alibi if you will advise me of the day. I must go to Boston once before Sam Ward goes westward, & I am to go to Harvard to see Mr Lane's library some day soon.[39] So it seems safest I should know. I send you what I ought to have sent before, the Western letters.[40] It may be that you may find some advantage from them now. May I ask the favour of Richard, to whom I send love & honour, to carry this letter, which contains a small sum of money, to *Nancy* Colesworthy, as she is called, (though her legal name is Deborah,) at Mrs Parks's house. That, at least, was her residence a year ago and I have not communicated with her since. If not there, *they* must describe her whereabout. We have the Curtises in Concord,[41] Burrill blooming with beauty when he was here yesterday

37. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

38. *Cf.* Apr. 26, 1844.

39. Lane had written from Harvard, Mass., Mar. 15, 1844, that he wished Emerson to make selections from his library before it was sold. Emerson was to have whatever he cared for, at his own price.

40. Doubtless Margaret Fuller's letters from Chicago which I have printed in notes on earlier letters to her.

41. For the Curtis brothers in Concord at this time, see *Early Letters of George Wm. Curtis,* pp. 183 ff. In his letter of May 10, 1844 (p. 186), Curtis says that with John Hosmer, Hecker, Bradford, and his own brother Burrill in Concord, he is not without some actual features of Brook Farm as he knew it. Isaac Hecker's notices of conversations with Emerson in April and June of this year are printed in Walter Elliott, pp. 126 and 154. *Cf.* also *Journals,* VI, 523, where Emerson's visit to the Shakers with Hecker is recorded.

fresh from his work. A Mr Hecker once of Brook Farm is also here to study Greek with G. Bradford. John Hosmer completes the B. F. Club.

Here is a fair copy of the last but one & of the last " Ethnical Scriptures." I sent you of the Hermes [42] an imperfect copy.

In expectation of speedily seeing you, your much honouring

Waldo.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, April 24, 1844 [43]

Concord
Wednesday Eve

Dear Margaret,

Booksellers also are vanity & vexation.[44] This morn[g] I visited Little of L. & B. & learned that Brown had departed to Phila. yesterday P. M.; that just previous to his departure Little had consulted him on the question whether " ten cents the copy " was our due, or " ten per cent "? (which is ten cents a copy if a copy cost a dollar, but only $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents if it cost 75 cents). and Brown had answered distinctly, " ten per cent." Then, said I to Little, our bargain is at an end: I have talked all along with Brown on this understanding of ten cents the copy,; have so represented it to Miss Fuller [45] & she so to Mr Greeley. — Now I will go back to my principals & take new counsels. The pendulum swung back to Munroe & Co. I went & talked with Dennett [46] & showed him what offer I had proposed to accept of L. & B. He instantly went to ciphering to show me how much better an offer was theirs of " half profits," than this of L. & B. had it been what I supposed. His results sounded so generous & plausible that I bade him write it all out in strong black & white not mistakeable & send it me without fail by tomorrow's stage.[47] It was to be based on a style of printing of Hildreth's Ethics,[48] a new book, or the reprint of James Martineau's new book [49]

42. " Ethnical Scriptures. Hermes Trismegistus " had appeared in *The Dial* for Jan., 1844.

43. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The date is clear from the letter of James Munroe & Co. cited below.

44. Emerson echoes the refrain of *Ecclesiastes* and adds a modern instance to the list of the ancient satirist.

45. *Cf.* Apr. 11, 1844.

46. William H. Dennet is listed in *Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1844, as a member of the firm of James Munroe & Co.

47. See James Munroe & Co., Apr. 25, 1844, quoted in a note on Apr. 26, 1844.

48. Richard Hildreth's *Theory of Morals*, 1844, bears the imprint of Charles C. Little & James Brown.

49. An American edition of *Endeavors after the Christian Life* was published by

(which is in same style as Hildreth) and was to pay, if all were sold, from 119 to 130 dollars, in a thousand copies. Well they have with some of the elect I know a dubious reputation but they have I am sure very little interest to cheat me, and I feel very safe in their hands. If you go to Boston I wish you would look at the books I have mentioned as samples. Hildreths is the right sample — I am not sure whether the other was H or J Martineau. I shall immediately render you account of their proposition when I have it. The only advantage the L & B have in my eyes is a greater power in N. Y. and of that I am not sure they were not able to hinder Past & Present from being published [50] as they thought they could. J. M. & Co think it would be a gain to publish one or two prints but not five or six

Yours
Waldo

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord? April 26, 1844 [51]

Friday Eve

Dear Margaret

I enclose to you Munroe's letter received this day by mail.[52] It is an estimate made cursorily the other day when I came dis-

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James Munroe & Co., 1844. In May 3, 1844, Emerson mentions definitely Harriet Martineau, but the letter from James Munroe & Co. cited above refers to James Martineau.

50. *Cf.* the letters of Apr. 23 and 24, 1843.

51. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Ellery St., Cambridge. The date is clear from the letter of James Munroe & Co. cited below.

52. This letter, signed "James Munroe & Co" and postmarked Boston, Apr. 25, contained a statement of the firm's offer for Margaret Fuller's book:

"Boston Ap'l 25. 1844

"Dear Sir,

"Agreeably to request we will now give the figures as regards a 12 mo based on Martineaus Sermons or Childs Letters. it will cost for composition say 40¢ pr p for 280 pages is ——— 112.00
26 ½ Reams Paper @ 3.00 ——— 79.50
48 To pen & Press Work @ .80 ——— 38.40
Binding 1000 Copies @ 13¢ ——— 130.—
suppose the outside price of the book was 83⅓ 359.90
disc't to booksellers ⅙ ——— 16⅔
66⅔ shd realize 666.67
½ 206.77
would give the Author ——— 103.38

appointed from L & B.'s shop — to show me that I shd. have done better to accept their offer of half profits, than I should have done had the supposed offer of L. & B. been made good; since, in one case, you would have realized $103.; & in the other, only $100. At my request, they have now written this out plainly, as you see. I understand the offer of half profits to include the risk of half a loss, and I cannot suppose that we should buy much or buy anything by that insurance either: for enough of the book is sure to sell to pay the costs. Then for the discount $\frac{1}{5}$ or $16\frac{2}{3}$ cents set down here to be made to booksellers, I think that the most important item and that if we contract with them that discount must be stipulated in the covenant we make. For if the book promises to sell, the publisher always inclines to hold it at home, not send it abroad, that he may monopolize all the profits of the retail sale.

Nothing is said here of the etchings: I wish to keep the price of the book down as much as possible, and should not like to have it exceed $87\frac{1}{2}$ cents *with etchings*. Can *three,* say, The arched rocks at Mackinaw, the Log-cabin, & one of the views of the prairie,[53] be added to the book for the $40. which those four cents would add to the price of the edition?

I am not bound to accept this offer of Munroe, nor to print with L. & B. but if left to myself shall perhaps at last be found at Munroe's,[54] it is so much easier to me to go there. Henry Thoreau has been showing me triumphantly how much cheaper & every way wiser it would be to publish the book ourselves paying the booksellers only a simple commission for vending it & conducting personally the correspondence with distant booksellers; — but such heroisms are not for me this spring. If you meet any skilful person in these matters take advice but without presenting Munroe, & L & B, as competitors. They do not like to have the offer of each shown to other. You will bring me a final word on Wednesday, if you do not write sooner. I augur a clear day & fall success to " Summer in the Lakes."

Waldo E.

## To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord, April 30, 1844

[Printed in *Letters from Ralph Waldo Emerson to a Friend,* pp. 61–62.]

53. *Summer on the Lakes,* as actually published in 1844, included the views Emerson suggests and a few others.

54. See May 3, 1844, for Margaret Fuller's decision against this advice.

## To Margaret Fuller, Boston, May 3, 1844 [55]

Boston, Friday 3d

Dear Margaret,

I have talked with Brown again, & told him that it is your pleasure to make a somewhat less lucrative bargain with him for the sake of securing his best correspondence at South & West, &c. He will drop me a letter he says, by way of memorandum of the terms of our covenant [56] & is ready to begin to print as soon as you will send to Mr Little at Cambridge your *copy*. He will print a N. Y. name on the title page: [57] and can print it in a fortnight. As to etchings, he thinks decidedly the author pays all the cost of them & the public nothing. & instances Mme Calderon. I told him our pattern should be Miss Martineaus Essays.[58] — He thinks the book in that style should not cost more than 75. cts: so you must add any additional directions in a letter accompanying the copy. & the best fortune follow my friend! Yours

R W E

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, June 3, 1844 [59]

Concord, June 3 —

Dear Margaret,

I have looked in vain hitherto for the May verses of last year. I took them out of my file of your letters one day, thinking I would print them in the Dial, but their petulant conclusion or no conclusion, I believe, hindered me, and I laid them up in some archives of deliberation to which I have not yet come. I thought to have gone to Boston earlier by many days than I went, & trusted to see you & to have had the honor of talking with the publisher about the book, so that in future days I might at least boast, "I mind the bigging on't." [60] but

55. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Comparison with the letters of Apr. 24, Apr. 26, and June 3, 1844, and the evidence cited below in the notes fix the date.

56. There was some delay, but on May 29 following, Little & Brown wrote to Emerson their agreement to publish *Summer on the Lakes*, paying Margaret Fuller a royalty of 10 per cent of the retail price — the "whole copy right" to be paid her when enough of the books had been sold to cover the cost of publication.

57. The New York name in the imprint was "Charles S. Francis and Company."

58. *Life in the Sick-room. Essays. By an Invalid*, London, 1844.

59. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription gives Margaret Fuller's address as Cambridge. The year is obviously 1844.

60. Scott, *The Antiquary*, chap. iv.

trifles are dragons to an easy country man and the book has hasted & loitered & I have had no part in it. Today I send for copies to L & B.[61] Send me none, dear Margaret, I pray, as I have told Brown he must give you none if he can help it, for I wish all your friends, who are six hundred, to know that you buy every copy you give, which is unjust. In this country it is an absurd practice for the author to present his books, it is enough that he writes it, he should not be his own purchaser. In England perhaps they have a custom of allowing the author a certain number of presentation copies: no such usage with us. In town I enquired in vain for you: & was obliged to come home the same night. I was very glad to hear the wonderful violinist; [62] quite as glad to see his person & manners, of which I had heard little or nothing. Thanks for your charitable beliefs. I am really trying to end my old endless chapters that they may decently appear in the world, but the stream of my thought too closely resembles our Concord River which is narrow & slow & shallow.[63] Soon you are coming hither — did you not say so?

61. The *Boston Courier* of June 5, 1844, announced the publication of *Summer on the Lakes* by Little & Brown on that day.

62. At least two violinists and one cellist appeared in Boston about this time, but Emerson doubtless meant Ole Bull, who advertised concerts for May 21, 23, 25, and 30, and for June 4 (*Boston Daily Advertiser,* May 21 ff., 1844).

63. It was apparently during a visit to the Emersons in the following month that Margaret Fuller wrote the letter endorsed by Emerson, "Margaret Fuller July 1844" and, probably later, in pencil, "Concord River Muse":

"My dear Waldo,

"Did you notice that, when you refused to go to walk & declared the dark aspect of your mental fortunes, the clouds that had been hanging lightly full of silver lustre, grew dark too; bent heavily, & soon began to weep It was as miraculous a coincidence as many that have showed the servitude of Nature to Saint or Prophet! In this instance, I fear me, it bodes no good to the hapless Africans (not Afrites!) let me see how many millions, who will be none the better for your silver tongue!

. . . . .

"But, Waldo, how can you expect the Muse *to come to you.* She hovers near. I have seen her several times, especially near night. Sometimes she looks in at your study windows when she can get a chance, for they are almost always shut, then

"Seeing seated, pen in hand,
By a gentle dubious light,
One whose eye beam, purely bright,
Marks him of her chosen band,
She thinks, 'at last I may draw near
And harbor with a mortal find
In the wide temple of his mind
No jangling notes can rend my ear.'
So she furls her various wings,
Breathes a soft kiss on his brow,

and I shall try your good nature and aid my sense of proportion by reading to you. Yet fear not, perhaps I shall not read them.

Yours affectionately
Waldo E

---

And her lark-like song she sings
airs ?
As clear as Earth's dull laws allow;
But why sudden stops the strain
Why backward starts that music-form
Flutters up the heavens again
With backward wings that rouse the storm
Rouse thunder-peal & lightning glare
In the repelled, earth-wooing air?

" In that temple so divine
She sought at once the inmost shrine
And saw this thought there graven, —
' Earth and fire, hell and heaven,
Hate and love, black and white,
Life and death, dark and bright,
All are one
One alone:
All else is seeming
I who think am nought
But the One a-dreaming
To and fro its thought:
All is well,
For all is one;
The fluid spell
is the cold stone;
However voluble
All life is soluble
Into my thought;
And that is nought,
But self-discovering
self recovering
Of the One
One Alone.'

" ' Ciel! ' cried the muse ' what then is my music? '
' That ' says the oracle ' is soul fallen sick,
Is motion excessive
And by curves successive
Circling back again
On the sea a drop of rain.'

" ' What ' says she, ' has my song,
My most creative, poised and long
Genius-unfolding song
No existence of its own? —

### To Christopher Pearse Cranch, Concord, June 7, 1844

[Printed in Leonora Cranch Scott, pp. 64–65.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, June 7, 1844[64]

Concord, June 7, 1844 —

Dear William,

We are all very glad to hear from you & like your tidings very well. Undoubtedly you should have heard from us long

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Have I no eternal throne
Deeper based than Fate?
I thought mine a state
Permanent as Truth,
Self-renewing youth! '
' It *seemed* so,' quoth he
' But there's no Eternity
Except Identity. .'
' I dont know what you mean ' she cries
' But this I feel
At your cool replies
On my just now so clear eyes
Sad films steal;
And in my dry throat
Rises no clear note;
And each wing
To my cold side begins to cling;
I must away
Where the day
With many-colored ray
But now an aspect gave
To the worlds, more fair
Than they show in this cave,
Shut from the living air;
Dont lure me here again with your sweet smile
As the sweet herbs that on the mountain grow
Allure the chamois to the path of toil
And to the clefts beguile
Through which he falls into the caves below
Where in age-treasured snow buried?
He yields his breath,
Quite unconvinced that life no better is than Death ' "

The omitted passage is printed, with several errors, in Higginson, *Margaret Fuller Ossoli*, pp. 70–71. This printed version includes also the date " November, 1843 " as a part of Margaret Fuller's text. But she wrote no date on the original, and Higginson does not explain his reason for supplying this one. The printed excerpt, it should be noted, is a humorous commentary on Emerson's lack of inspiration for composition and the inadequacy of too peaceful Concord as a home for the lyrist or orator.

64. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

since; but we have had friends to entertain; & we, that is, Edie & I, have sat for our miniatures, which took the best hours of a week, I lament to say; and we have friends' books to think of; beside our own, which takes much time to get on a little way. Our rail-road also is not done: a locomotive, the first traveller, arrived here from Boston on the track yesterday afternoon, whistling at the top of its iron lungs to every hearing ear in Concord.[65] But it is yet uncertain how soon the cars will run. Some say, ten days; some say, twenty days hence. It is only certain, *before the 1 July*. Mother & Lidian keep the more special eye on the Teakettle that they wish it to bring Susan hither Mother has been unwilling to leave town for some time past lest she should miss a visit. Now she will go to Boston in a few days stay there a few days & then return, still assured of Susan's visit here. Our road is a very prosperous promising undertaking, & a member of the British parliament was here the other day, with another agent from Canada, to confer with our Directors upon its continuation to Montreal.[66] Yesterday I read Margaret Fuller's "Summer on the Lakes," which is a very good & entertaining book & which I hope will be as popular at the South & West as it deserves to be. Also I wish it to go to England. Did you say Calvert had come home. If you are his agent for books, you should send it to him. I am very glad that William Prichard remains with you. I admire handsome people, & would that I & all my friends were ever surrounded with such: if they are good also, — it is angels & archangels. — Edith's beauty has been marred for a few days by chicken pox: ignominious accidents, which I hate. I was glad the other day to find I had brought home ivy, & played with it in my hand for an hour without harm. Henry Hedge spent yesterday with us, a most respectable scholar. Furness never came near me — the rogue — when he was hereabouts. Miss Neagus now Mrs Hildreth asked leave to come here & paint my miniature [67] & after some

65. The *Concord Freeman* of June 7, 1844, records the long-awaited event as occurring at 4:05 p. m. the previous day. "The repose of that quiet venerable town," says the *Daily Evening Transcript* of the same date, ". . . was suddenly broken by the shrill note of the engine and a hundred passengers alighting from a train of freight cars laden with materials for the line." The letter of June 17, 1844, tells of the actual opening of the road.

66. The *Concord Freeman* of June 7, 1844, told how holders of Fitchburg stock were asking an advance of 10 per cent in the Boston market and of the great demand there. On May 31 the same paper had declared that when the road was completed to Montreal, as it undoubtedly would be at a not very distant date, much of the travel between England and Canada would be completed by this route.

67. This and a second miniature of Emerson by the same artist are mentioned in a number of later letters. The photogravure in the first volume of the *Journals* seems

time she wd. give it to Lidian. L. accepted the proposal. She came & painted, they say, an excellent one, & has carried it off to the artists' gallery. I thought it did me too much honour, nor could I find my haggard self in this rosy young beau. Love to all the boys and to yourself from Mother & Lidian & your affectionate

Waldo

Please to drop this letter in the Post Office to Cranch.

### To James Munroe and Company, Concord, June 11, 1844

[MS listed and partly quoted in Merwin Sales Co., Mar. 9, 1915. Emerson wrote that he did not much incline to make a fifth volume of Carlyle but would be ready to discuss his own new book, he hoped, by the middle of July or earlier. James Munroe & Co., June 6, 1844, had asked whether Emerson would coöperate in publishing another volume of Carlyle's miscellanies and whether he had decided on a new volume of his own essays. A letter to James Munroe & Co. listed without place or date in C. F. Libbie & Co., Feb. 3–5, 1892, and described as relating to Carlyle's miscellanies may possibly be the same as the present one.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, June 17, 1844[68]

Concord, 17 June, 1844.

Dear William,

Our railroad opens this day & since sunrise the cars have already traversed the distance between our depot & Charlestown 8 times. The cars will run regularly four times every day, both ways. one train at 7, one at 10 or 10½, at 3, and at 6. There are fractions set down to some of these hours but the newspapers have it all in black & white.[69] Now therefore by setting her name down in Brattle Street the coach of the railroad will call for Susan, & take her to the depot in Charlestown, & she will have an easy & pleasant ride hither whereof, dear brother, let her not fail. Mother is at this moment in Boston, may

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to be a reproduction of one of these paintings. For a Sartain engraving of Emerson after Hildreth, see *The Drawing-room Scrap Book*, Philadelphia, 1850, opposite p. 75. Caroline Neagus married Richard Hildreth, the writer, editor, and lawyer, on June 7, 1844, the day of the present letter. She is listed as Caroline N. Hildreth, artist, in *Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1845.

68. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

69. The *Concord Freeman* of June 21, 1844, recorded the beginning of the regular runs on the 17th and gave the full schedule of hours between Charlestown and Concord. The passage of twenty miles was made in about an hour, the fare was fifty cents — "an abatement of one-third on the old stage price" — and the cars were said to be "large, roomy, and extremely handsome." Concord had become suburban.

return tomorrow or next day. Lidian's hour draws near, & between this & the 4 July, she promises me a babe: [70] a work which dear nature in civilized countries seems to take sadly to heart, & one way or another to make us pay high prices for, — tears, groans, indispositions, wondrous discomforts & spleens, & very shattered constitutions. Well it is a blessed gift full of dangerous happiness but the worst of it is that she makes very light of fathers & mothers when once she has quite finished the young people; the old ones are but sprouted potatoes, & of no further use or renown. Worst of all, perhaps, they are contented to be so; & with this squalid resignation they suffer their young springalds to consign them to the armchair & insignificance thenceforward. Well, we shall have our revenge one time.

Yours affectionately —
Waldo

### To Jane Welsh Carlyle, Concord, June 19, 1844

[MS listed and partly quoted in American Art Association, May 2, 1923. Emerson introduces Mrs. Hannah F. Lee and mentions several of her books. *Cf.* a note on Dec. 30, 1844.]

### To Charles Lane, Concord? June 20, 1844

[Described by Lane, Harvard, Mass., July 11, 1844, as inclosing $13 for books of his which Emerson retains. Lane asks whether Emerson will not keep Plato and other volumes he cares for so that some buyer may see them.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, June 27, 1844

[WmE List.]

### To Caroline Neagus Hildreth, Concord? *c.* June? 1844

[Mrs. Hildreth (endorsed 1844 by Emerson) refers to his "note," which she received with the picture. She thinks September will be the best time for him to sit for another. Comparison with June 7, 1844, to William Emerson seems to indicate June as the probable month of the present letter.]

### To John Sterling, Concord, July 5 and 9, 1844

[MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Printed incompletely in *The Atlantic*, LXXX, 33–34 (July, 1897), and in *A Correspondence*, pp. 87–90. Both printed versions omit the following passage preceding their last paragraph:

"For these papers which Russell has so unprofitably claimed & kept, I feel

70. Edward Waldo Emerson was born July 10, 1844, as his father wrote in the MS *Autobiography*.

now much mortification. I will write to him this afternoon, & they will probably accompany this letter. Mrs Lee an old friend of mine goes to England I learn on the 16th, & I shall probably engage her good offices to the box. She will carry them to Carlyle. At any rate you shall be punctually informed."

And both omit, without any indication, the final paragraph of the original: "9th I learn that Mrs Lee does not go immediately to London, & shall therefore send the parcel by the steamer of the 16th *via* Liverpool to *you* by Harnden's Express. I am not without hope that I shall yet confer with you personally concerning this pacquet, which is now the occasion to me of sadder thoughts, that Russell has sent it me without a word of explanation. You have here many friends who will deeply sympathize with you in every event."]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord? July? *c.* 15? 1844

[Mentioned in Carlyle, Aug. 5, 1844 (*C–E Corr.*).]

### To Henry Coit Perkins, Concord? August? *c.* 5? 1844

[Perkins, Newburyport, Mass., Aug. 3, 1844, asked a lecture for the Newburyport Lyceum on Oct. 11. Emerson endorsed this: "Answered that I would come."]

### To Elliot C. Cowdin, Concord, August 10, 1844[71]

Concord, 10 August, 1844

Elliot C. Cowdin, President M. L. Assocn

My dear Sir,

I fear I may have only repeated the annoyance which my hesitation last year caused you, by my delay to reply to your note received the other day. I have now a little leisure again, but no better reply to send you than to beg you to leave me out of your programme for the coming winter. Until October, I shall not decide on my winter employments; & I have some plans before me which may be quite incompatible with the engagement you offer me. I am very glad to read in the papers & to receive from yourself very good accounts of the continued prosperity of your association.

With great regard,
Your obedient servant,
R. W. Emerson.

### To William Emerson, Concord, August 10, 1844

[WmE List.]

71. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Cowdin at Boston, and *Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1844, shows that Cowdin was a "clerk."

### To ————————, Concord, August 29, 1844

[MS listed and partly quoted in American Art Association, Mar. 31–Apr. 1, 1927. Emerson comments that it is a great intellectual and manly pleasure to travel well but says he has perhaps only two regular correspondents abroad — Carlyle and Sterling — and does not like to write an introduction that might take the time of Carlyle, who is oppressed with company.]

### To Margaret Fuller, Concord, August 30, 1844 [72]

Pity me, O wise & kindest friend, but I can write you nothing of that I should. This proof-correction [73] bewilders my brain with its concentration on nothings and the impracticability & tough unalterableness of sentences which must not stand as they are demonstrates past a doubt the inherent vice of my writing. The Oration is just getting through the press at the same time, & I have second corrections also to make on the *revises* of my ' book ' because they are to go out to England on the first Sept. & I have been shown important errors now irrevocable in my Boston edition. Also I have financial & other affairs pending, and if I am to have a pen in it you must keep back your book [74] a little while.

I have " Norris " [75] from Lane, and Lloyd shall bring it, but it is not much. I have received your good & cordial gifts, but did not wish even to say ' I thank you,' out of this foolish limbo. So wait for me a little.

Ever yours,

Waldo E.

Concord, 30 August, 1844.

### To Thomas Carlyle, Boston, September 1, 1844

[MS owned by RWEMA. Printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

72. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Margaret Fuller at Cambridge.

73. For the publication of the second series of *Essays*, see Oct. 14? 1844. The " Oration " in press at the same time was doubtless *An Address . . . in Concord . . . on 1st August, 1844, on the Anniversary of the Emancipation of the Negroes in the British West Indies*, which was announced in the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, Sept. 9, 1844, as published on that day; in the same year John Chapman brought out a London edition (*cf.* Dec. 30, 1844).

74. Probably *Woman in the Nineteenth Century*. " The Great Lawsuit," first published in *The Dial* for July, 1843, was transformed into a book by the end of 1844.

75. Several books by John Norris, the English Platonist, were in the library Lane and Alcott brought to America (" Catalogue of Books " in *The Dial* for Apr., 1843). For Emerson's pleasure in Norris some years earlier, see *Journals*, III, 500.

## To John Greenleaf Whittier, Concord, September 13, 1844[76]

Concord, 13 Sept. 1844.

My dear Sir,

I am sorry that your friendly invitations & kind admonitions which might warm a duller heart, find me so occupied, with what, too, must seem frivolous work beside that to which you challenge me, that I cannot comply with either of your requests. The steamer which sails for Liverpool on the day of the Acton meeting,[77] is to carry some proof sheets to England, promised for that day, & every available minute of mine is needed to make ready first the *copy*, & then the proof. Perhaps if I were at leisure, I might not go to Acton, as I have not found in my small experiments in that kind, that I could help any body so. I have not the sort of skill that is useful in meetings for debate, but should be likely to waste other people's time or my own.[78] Meantime, I delight to know that such meetings are holden; & the spirit which they

76. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Whittier, editor of the *Middlesex Standard* at Lowell, Mass. Whittier had written to Emerson the day before, after reading the address on West Indian emancipation:

"Lowell, 12th 9th Mo 1844.

"R'spected friend,

"Herewith I send thee the last no of the Baltimore Sat. Visiter, containing a letter from my friend Charles T. Torrey, late pastor of one of the Congregational churches in Salem. His case deeply interests me; & I hope that it will others.

"In my paper of today thou will see the call for a Middlesex Co Convention, of the friends of Liberty. That thou canst sympathise with us in the great *idea* which underlies our machinery of conventions & organizations, I have little doubt after reading thy Address. Allow me, then to suggest that a letter from thee, touching upon Torrey's case, or some other point involved in our movement, would be of great Service to our cause. I do not know as thee can attend such meetings — if not, a letter would be the next best thing. Give us a kind word of encouragement — if thee cannot meet with us.

"Our Convention meets on Second day next — the 16th at Acton. Let me — if it is not asking too much — request thee to drop me a line which I can get on Seventh day — the 14th

"Thy friend,

"John G Whittier

"In the last Standard I have noticed thy Address, on the 1st of Aug."

77. The "Hibernia" was to sail for Liverpool on the 16th (*Boston Daily Advertiser*, Sept. 13, 1844). For the London edition of the second series of *Essays*, see a note on Oct. 31? 1844.

78. Emerson put the matter plainly in his letter of Dec. 31, 1844, to Carlyle. Such activities, he said, were for him an intrusion into another sphere and so much loss of virtue in his own.

indicate, & which, I doubt not, they spread, saves & dignifies the ground we tread on, & endears to us our neighbours & countrymen, among whom one who has no turn for trade, or any mechanical skill, is in some peril of feeling himself a stranger. Since you are disposed to give so friendly a hearing to opinions of mine, I am almost ready to promise you as soon as I am free of this present coil of writing, my thought on the best way of befriending the slave & ending slavery. We will see.

I have read Mr Torrey's letter [79] with attention. I wish I liked it better. I do not get as much of the facts as I want, and too much of another element. But if he has run a great risque out of love & pity, everything else shall be forgotten how quickly! Yours, with great respect,

R. W. Emerson.

## To Rufus Wilmot Griswold, Concord? September 19, 1844

[MS listed and partly quoted in American Art Association, Mar. 10–11, 1924. Emerson remarks that he is but a new writer and too recent an adventurer for a critic to make up a confident judgment; he asks that his name be left out of a book — presumably either a new edition of Griswold's *The Poets and Poetry of America* or the same editor's *The Prose Writers of America,* to be published a little later.]

## To James Munroe, Concord, September 19, 1844 [80]

19 Sept. Concord.

Mr James Munroe

Dear Sir,

I have received a letter of which the signature though rather obscure seems to be *James Boyle.* The writer is unknown to me, & the subject of his letter not very clear. He offers to visit me, & begs me to address him at your store; where he will probably call for an answer. I wish you would tell him, if he comes to you, that I am now extremely busy with my book,[81] & shall be until October: but if he will leave his

79. I have not found this number of the rare *Baltimore Saturday Visiter,* now famous for Poe's contribution some years earlier. Before the end of 1845 Charles Turner Torrey was " wearing out his life in the slaveholder's dungeon " and Whittier was " almost ready to call for fire from Heaven " (Samuel T. Pickard, *Life and Letters of John Greenleaf Whittier,* n.d. [c. 1894], I, 310). Torrey's death in a Baltimore prison, in 1846, made him a martyr among the abolitionists, and his name was one they did not fail to conjure with.

80. MS owned by the New York Public Library; ph. in CUL. The year is endorsed. The outside address is " James Munroe, & Co."

81. For the publication of the second series of *Essays,* see Oct. 14? following.

address in Boston with you, I will try to see him when I am next in town. He is probably a Quaker.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, September 30, 1844

[MS owned by RWEMA. Printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, October 4, 1844[82]

[1]Concord, 4 October, 1844.[1]

Dear William

I received on my return from Boston three days ago your letter with its enclosure of $174. and was very glad to hear that your long recusant partner Mr F.[83] was willing to render reason. We are all disconcerted by Elizabeth's illness which may be tedious and may hinder Mother's long projected visit, for the season. I have been confined at home this rainy day by a cold, & yesterday & cannot go out to know how Elizabeth prospers I suppose she may suffer many weeks with a slow bilious fever Let us hope not. Aunt Mary is at Waltham from Waterford. I detected her in Roxbury the other day when I was in & about the city, & laid two successive trains of arrest & conveyance to get her to Concord, but, as usual, she slipped from them both, &, in a sort of spite, planted herself at Waltham,[84] where it is house-crowded term-time. [II]I have lately added an absurdity or two to my usual ones, which I am impatient to tell you of. In one of my solitary wood-walks by Walden Pond, I met two or three men who told me they had come thither to sell & to buy a field, on which they wished me to to bid as purchaser. As it was on the shore of the pond, & now for years I had a sort of daily occupancy in it, I bid on it, & bought it, eleven acres for $8.10 per acre. The next day I carried some of my well beloved gossips to the same place & they deciding that the field was not good for anything, if Heartwell Bigelow should cut down his pine-grove, I bought, for 125 dollars more, his pretty wood lot of 3 or 4 acres. and so am

82. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–II are in Cabot, II, 492–493.

83. Folsom; *cf.* a note on Oct. 25, 1843, to William Emerson.

84. An account of her visit there, with a notable analysis of her character, is to be found in a letter of Sarah Bradford Ripley dated Waltham, Oct. 6, 1844 (*Worthy Women*, pp. 175–176). Two letters from Mary Moody Emerson, Nov. 13 (endorsed 1844), and Dec. 13 and 24, 1844, make it seem probable that Emerson wrote to her more than once toward the end of the year.

landlord & waterlord of 14 acres, more or less, on the shore of Walden, & can raise my own blackberries.[11] I am now, like other men who have hazarded a small stake, mad for more. Since Mrs Brown wishes me to build her a cottage on some land near my house; & the dreaming Alcott is here with Indian dreams that I helped him to some house & farm in the Spirit Land![85] These are the light headed frolics of a hack of a scribe when released at last from months of weary tending on the printers devil! I expect to grow fat & plump now for weeks to come. My book, I prayed the publisher to secure me some copies of in time to send you tomorrow but he did not seem willing to promise any before Monday or Tuesday.[86]

Yours with love to Susan & boys!
Waldo.

## To William Emerson, Concord, October 14? 1844[87]

Concord, October 15, 1844.

Dear William,

Hugh Phelan[88] has alighted on this point of the orb, and brings calamities enough to an idle man profoundly ignorant of gardens & to whom all exertion in that direction is unnatural & monstrous. My wife & George Bradford & Hugh cabal together against my peace, and, between Saturday & this morning, these fruitful brains have hatched a plot which threatens the peace & well being of all your household also! I enclose the paper which Hugh has written, as a literary & domestic curiosity. The enormity of the demand on Staten Island will doubtless " strike Corioli like a planet,"[89] and you can present it to the Historical Society of the Island as a monument to the future annalist of the audacities of the present generation. The only contingency in which I consent to any sanction of the complot is that you are now provided with a gardener whom you will spare to me for half a day. In that case

85. William Emerson, Oct. 8, 1844 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), objected vigorously to his brother's throwing even cheap acres into the sieve of " the Orphic philosopher."

86. See Oct. 14? 1844.

87. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The date was almost certainly the 14th, as William Emerson, generally very accurate, endorses the letter " Oct. 14/44 " and adds: " Rec'd 15th." In the MS, quotation marks stand at the beginning of every line of the second paragraph.

88. That is, Whelan. He appears in many later letters as Emerson's gardener and man of all work.

89. Shakespeare, *Coriolanus*, II, ii.

I will employ him for half a day at my proper charges to execute any part he can of Hugh's Schedule of work. For his guidance I transcribe the Memorandum which Lidian the Queen has sent down to me in her own handwriting in pretended mitigation of her servant Hugh's extravagances. It runs thus.

"Hugh asks for a great variety which I feel unwilling to trouble them to send & shall be amply contented with some roses, honeysuckles, raspberries, grapes, & currants. Of currants, honeysuckles, & grapes, slips will do as well as shoots with roots to them, but if the roses & raspberries have suckers with a little piece of root, I should be glad; since I don't think slips will do so well in our climate & with our care." —

Here is the whole. In case you are without a gardener, send the whole document to S. I. Hist. Soc.y. If you have one & can spare him employ him *for me* six hours & send the *barrel* if the cabal mean a barrel, to Harnden, paying him *to the Fitchburg Depot,* & charging me with the amounts.

I believe you have not heard that Mother had an ugly fall a week ago in coming down stairs over some horse chestnuts the children had left on the stairs She fell down the two lowest stairs on to the floor & wrenched her arm [&][90] bruised her forehead. She is still very lame in her arm & keeps her chamber; but no bone was broken. Elizabeth is slowly recovering but as she would not be able to travel probably for three or four weeks, & perhaps Mother not much sooner, they postpone their visit to you till next May. Mrs Hildreth has gone to Boston & carried the new miniature, which divides opinions here somewhat, Mrs H. being sure that she has a better likeness than the old one [91] & some of us consenting whilst the majority prefer the old one. She and all are discontented with the eyes, and I am to sit once more next Thursday for them. The book was printed a long time ago but the recent fire in the Bookbinder Bradley's establishment has delayed all binding of new books. In a day or two more, they say now, it shall be out.[92] I have never given you the amount of Bulkeley's bill to 1 July which was 41.88

Waldo E

90. So badly blurred that it is hardly legible.

91. *Cf.* June 7, 1844, to William Emerson.

92. Benjamin Bradley's bookbindery, on Washington St., was destroyed by fire on Sept. 9, and many volumes belonging to booksellers were lost (*Daily Evening Transcript,* Sept. 9 and 10, 1844). But the second series of *Essays* was advertised as "published and for sale" in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Oct. 19 following. The extant MS *Memorandum of an agreement made this Ninth day of October 1844 by & between R. W. Emerson of Concord & James Munroe & Co.* gave Munroe the rights

### To R. G. Bennett, Concord? October? *c.* 24? 1844

[Bennett, Beverly, Mass., Oct. 22, 1844, asks a lecture for the Beverly Lyceum, and Emerson's endorsement shows he answered he would come Dec. 25.]

### To John Minter Morgan, Concord? October 30, 1844

[Acknowledged by Morgan, London, May 20, 1845, thanking Emerson for his *Essays* and announcing that he sends a volume he has recently finished. Morgan, London, May 31, 1844, had stated that he was then sending Emerson a copy of *Hampden in the Nineteenth Century*.]

### To James Munroe and Company, Concord, October 31? 1844[93]

J. Munroe & Co.

Gentlemen,

I send you three copies of the new Essays to be sent to London to the care of Mr Chapman in your box. Will you have the goodness to request his attention to the copy for Miss Martineau, that it may be sent to her publisher in London, whose name I do not know.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

Concord
Oct. 31,[94] 1844

### To Thomas A. Greene, Concord? November? *c.* 1? 1844

[Greene, Providence, Oct. 26 (postmarked Oct. 30), 1844, suggests two more lectures for the New Bedford Lyceum in December and asks autographs of Carlyle and of the late Dr. Ripley. Emerson's endorsement shows he answered that he would come on Dec. 10.]

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of sale of the two thousand copies printed. The retail price was to be $1 a copy, but the publisher was to account for the books at a 30 per cent discount and was to sell to the trade at a discount of 10 per cent from the retail price.

93. MS owned by the Maine Historical Society; ph. in CUL. John Chapman was just bringing out his English edition of the second series of *Essays* with Carlyle's introductory notice. The important connection between Emerson and the London publisher began with a letter from Chapman, Aug. 3, 1844, written on the same sheet with an introduction from Henry G. Wright dated July 30, 1844. Wright, recently a member of Alcott's Fruitlands community, explained that Chapman was the successor to Green, late agent for *The Dial;* had "a good and an increasing connexion among the best of our modern thinkers, especially among the Unitarians"; and bowed reverently "at the shrine of certain Transatlantic Discoursers on 'Nature' and transcendental 'Essay' writers." Chapman's name had replaced Green's on the cover of the final number of *The Dial.*

94. Not clearly legible; possibly "30."

## To Silas G. Randall, Concord? November 25, 1844

[Randall, Middlebury College, Nov. 14, 1844, invites Emerson to address a literary society of the college the following July. Emerson's endorsement shows he answered Nov. 25 that he would reply definitely four weeks later.]

## To Benjamin Rodman, Concord, November 25, 1844 [95]

Concord, 25 Nov. 1844

My dear Sir,

I was at Nantucket [96] when your kind letter arrived here. You are very thoughtful & tender of me to to consult so particularly for my good. I could heartily wish I had confided the whole matter to your kind offices, & made you the broker of my literary wares in your district. But it is now too late, I fear, to act in the matter with effect without a tedious correspondence, so I shall accept the days which are already fixed for me at New Bedford [97] & Fall River & make two journeys for one. Besides I know not how, with all the work I have planned for the winter, I could spare a week at a time. But for my visit to N. B. for the 10th I shall accept your kind invitation to your house. But I see that I must return the next day as I am to go to Salem on the 11th Dec. an engagement of some month's standing.[98] I fancied in going to Nantucket, that I should have an hour or more to spend in New B.: but it proved a handbreadth With kindest remembrances to Mrs Rodman, and to your son & to the Morning Star,[99] — Your friend & servant

R. W. Emerson.

95. MS owned by the New York Historical Society; ph. in CUL. The address is to Benjamin Rodman of New Bedford, who had for some years been Emerson's correspondent and was a prolific writer of letters to Concord for many years to come. On Nov. 17, 1844, he had written his offer to be host when Emerson came to lecture at New Bedford on Dec. 10 and had advised that Emerson reconsider his refusal to lecture at Fall River. He also acknowledged a copy of the *Essays* — second series, no doubt.

96. The *New-Bedford Mercury*, Nov. 28, 1844, reprinted a report of Emerson's four lectures before the Nantucket Atheneum, which "transcended every thing we ever heard, in the way of lectures."

97. The same issue of the *Mercury* cited above announced that Emerson was to lecture on Dec. 10, 1844, before the New Bedford Lyceum.

98. N. B. Perkins, Salem, Oct. 23, 1844, had accepted Emerson's offer to come on Dec. 11. The *Salem Gazette* of Dec. 10, 1844, announced the lecture before the Salem Lyceum on Wednesday the 10th (*i.e.*, 11th).

99. Perhaps a daughter of Rodman's (*cf.* Charles H. Jones, *Genealogy of the Rodman Family*, 1886, p. 71).

## To James Freeman Clarke, Concord, November 26, 1844 [100]

Concord, 26 Nov. 1844

My dear Sir,

I thank you for your information respecting Mr Hudson [101] of whom I had already heard enough to awaken my interest in his course and whom I hope in some manner to hear. Our Lyceum in Concord is, (as usual about this time of the year,) in embryo only, & may turn out abortive. We have holden one meeting appointed a Committee to collect subscriptions with power to summon the Lyceum when & not until they have gathered a hundred dollars. As the sum is a little larger than we commonly set out with, perhaps we shall have none. If we get in motion in sufficient season I shall very cheerfully press Mr Hudson's claims on the Curators, & think us fortunate if we can fetch him out hither.

As for Mr Allen, I shall not offer him any letter, as I have no correspondents in England who could probably serve him. Carlyle is so much visited, that he has been obliged to defend himself with some moroseness, & I seldom send any one to him who has not good claims on his time. He has a particular reluctance to being painted, and refused Gambardella, unless he would get Mr Lawrence (a painter) 's opinion that he could paint him well.[102]

With great regard, yours,
R. W. Emerson.

## To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord? December 2, 1844 [103]

I have my old neighbors still, Hawthorne, Thoreau & Alcott, but can ill spare this incomparable companion.[104] Sometimes this summer I

100. MS owned by Mr. James F. Clarke; ph. in CUL. The address is to "Rev. James F. Clarke," Mt. Vernon St., Boston.

101. Clarke, Boston, Nov. 22, 1844 (MS owned by Mr. James F. Clarke), recommended that Hudson, "late from Cincinnati . . . who lectures on Shakespeare with remarkable power," be engaged by the Concord Lyceum, and added that a young artist from Kentucky named Allen was on his way to England and Italy and would like letters of introduction, especially one to Carlyle. The MS record book of the Concord Lyceum (in the Concord Free Public Library) shows that Hudson — doubtless Henry Norman Hudson — lectured on *Macbeth* Jan. 1, 1845.

102. For the story, see the letters of Oct. 14 and Nov. 14, 1841, and Carlyle, Nov. 19, 1841 (*C–E Corr.*). Samuel Laurence painted portraits of several famous writers.

103. MSS owned by RWEMA; phs. in CUL. These are two incomplete copies in Cabot's hand which I have combined, avoiding the repetition of a brief passage. The copyist indicates the date and the person addressed and notes that the "incomparable companion" is Channing.

104. For Channing's recent removal to New York, see Dec. 3, 1844.

have found a true delight in the wisdom of his talk, & have been very sensible that there was no literature in these days up to the mark of his criticism. x x his writing is unworthy him. x x Is it any better with Margaret? The muses have feet, to be sure, but it is an odd arrangement that selects them for the treadmill. Our grand machine of society must be sadly disjointed & ricketty, if this is its best result x success then to all the new aspirants & their *social* plans; sane or fanatics, they cannot do worse, & the hour is big with something better than the establishment. I read Napoleon's memoirs [105] lately & could not help grudging to Europe that grand executive faculty which in this vast empty Eden of ours with so many fine theories & so many white-robed candidates, might consolidate, organize, & put in action, so much. x

## To William Emerson, Concord, December 3, 1844 [106]

Concord, Dec. 3, 1844

Dear William,

W. Ellery Channing my special friend & gossip is gone now for some weeks to N. Y. to assist Mr Greeley in the Tribune Office. He goes to uncertain tasks & uncertain emoluments, it is all an experiment but he wants work & a living. He has left his wife & child for the present, here in Concord. Channing is of a very tender & delicate nature as poets are wont to be and though in manner & speech a man of the world, yet as easily disconcerted & disheartened as a child, and this, though he is a person of the finest wit and of very extensive information, &, if you only hear him talk, you would say of a great deal of practical wisdom. His arrival at N. Y. was unfortunately timed. Greeley, sick & prostrate, was just leaving the city [107] — he threw to Channing some broadest general directions, & left him to make his own work, — the one thing he could not do. He has met with much vexation, I infer, & desponds a good deal, though resolved to stay, if he can. In these extremes, can you not, on your way to or from court, stop a moment at the Tribune Office & invite him perhaps to spend a Sunday with you? [108] If I

105. Emerson's interest in Napoleon about this time is also shown in *Journals*, VI, 544.

106. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

107. The *New-York Daily Tribune*, Nov. 16, 1844, mentions the absence of "the responsible Editor of The Tribune" from the city for a few days.

108. William Emerson, Dec. 22 and 23, 1844, says that Channing refused an invitation to spend Sunday at Staten Island because "he had not yet been to see his sister (Miss Fuller)." Margaret Fuller had come to New York about the beginning of De-

had given him a letter to you, he would not probably have carried it, for he is shy & retreating to an extreme, though extremely in need of society & affection, & an incomparable companion. If you could fairly make him feel domesticated for an hour now & then at your house, I

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cember after spending some time at a little town on the Hudson, whence she had written to Emerson:

"Fishkill Landing
"17th Novr 1844.

"I wanted to write, before, dear Waldo, and thank you for the book, but my pen has been a weary with other writing rainy days & evess & fine days I have spent almost wholly in exercise. This writing has consisted in great part of the never-sufficiently-to-be-talked-of pamphlet, which is at last finished.

"I have been happy now in freedom from headach and all other interruption & have spun out my thread as long & many-colored as was pleasing. The result I have not yet looked at; must put some days between me & it first. Then I shall revise and get it into printer's ink by Christmas, I hope.

"Your book I have read quite through some of it in the neighborhood of hawks and such like, but will not mar the effect by a few inadequate words. It will be a companion through my life. In expression it seems far more adequate than the former volume, has more glow, more fusion. Two or three cavils I should make at present, but will not, till I have examined further if they be correct.

"Your Pentameron I wish I could send now, but am not sure I can be ready. It has been a great pleasure to us to have it The Desatir I want to keep awhile for *Sunday reading*. I will not keep it always.

"We go to N. Y. the latter part of next week, & after that Cary will return to Mass. in about ten days. We have had a most satisfactory time here so pleasantly together and apart. Ellery shared some of our days on the mountains and can tell you about he
them, if you will. We have had no social interruptions, and, to me, this tranquillity before the bustle of the winter has been precious. Being out in the open air so much and in such a bold exhilarating scene, books and thought also have had their natural zest, and the seven weeks seem a piece out of the pure blue. Ellery will bring you this. Probably you will not be surprized to see him back even so soon. He seems to know himself — and be sure that he cannot stay. I have wished he would see Mr Greeley again, & know whether he had all the facts before him but suppose he will not. If it is really just as he supposes, I think, myself, he cannot stay.

"I hope you will write to me soon, and as often as you can. I shall feel my separation from almost all that has been companionable to me I suppose when fairly installed in my business life.

"Sterling's death was a painful surprize I thought he would get better and do a little more in our house here.

"How is Elizabeth? really well again? Some one spoke of her as having a cough In a letter to me, she spoke of a journey southward; — how far South? I wish it might be to Washington & Baltimore An entire change of scene and association would do her good. Caroline directed a letter to her to the care of your brother William in N. Y. After I know where she is, I shall write to her again, if I have leisure.

"Give love to Lidian & Mamma, & please mention whether the latter is again quite well.

"I enclose a little poem written here which I wish you would have put with the

am sure Susan would delight in him, for he is one of the best bred men. However this is marching altogether too fast, for I do not know that his duties will allow him any such latitude as *hours;* but if you can go & speak to him, the attention at this moment may be important. He knows us all here very well, & is ever particularly attentive to Mamma. I do not know whether you saw Elizabeth in her transit: I fear not as they do not seem to have stopped in N. Y. The new miniature [109] E. H refused to carry to you as she did not like the expression The artist is sure it is better than the old one., much better, all but the eyes which she will alter at my first visit to Boston. George Bradford, Abel Adams, & Lucia Russell all good authorities say the same thing. The other principal witnesses are on the other side.

For the rest, after these two considerable losses of E. H & W. E. C. we speed as usual. Mother is quite well again & Lidian prospers with her three charges. At Thanksgiving or the day after we had Mr & Mrs Ripley & Mary, Dr C. T. Jackson & wife, and Burrill Curtis to dine. Bulkeley was not well enough to come but is pretty well.

Mr Ripley will no doubt remove to Concord, as soon after one year, (after Ezra is out of college that is) as he can The family seem happy in the prospect. Mother & Lidian send love to you & Susan. & the hope of all blessing to the boys. Yours ever

Waldo.

I fancy C. must be seen at the Office: he probably has not yet a settled abode.

### To Henry James, Sr., Concord? December? *c.* 9? 1844

[Mentioned in Dec. 9, 1844. William Emerson, Dec. 22 and 23, 1844, said this letter was still on his desk, as James was away and nobody knew where.]

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Fourth July ones; you will then have a complete inventory of my emblems & trappings '*in case of death.*' Have you safe those I gave you of the All Saints Day &c? I cannot find my copy & though I presume it is only mislaid, feel uneasy lest they should pass out of existence, for to me they are the keys of dear homes in the past. So I commend them to your care & if I do not find mine, shall by & by have another copy taken of them

" Ever affecy yours
" Margaret.

" Cranch, Caroline, William & I received our copies of the book at the same time & sat solemnly each with a copy in hand drawing our fates. Suddenly we saw the comic of the scene & laughter was full if not loud."

It is probable that there was at least one letter from Emerson to Margaret Fuller late in 1844, but I have not found it.

109. See Oct. 14? 1844.

## To William Emerson, Concord, December 9, 1844[110]

Concord, Dec. 9, 1844

Dear William,

We have not heard from you this long time. I forgot when I wrote you concerning Mr Channing,[111] to say that Hugh [112] had left us a fortnight ago, with intent to report himself at S. Island immediately. I hope no bad fortune intercepted his purpose. I write now merely to enclose this letter to Mr James,[113] because I doubt whether his residence is in the city of N. Y. He returned lately from England, & left the parcel from Carlyle with you, which you forwarded to me. Mr Prichard or W^m^ *H.* Channing or Dr Vanderburg [114] (who is a connexion by marriage) or somebody else in your village, can tell you whether Mr J. will receive this letter by dropping it with this address in the P. Office, or what other it needs, & so will oblige yours Waldo.

## To William A. Tappan, Concord? December? *c.* 10? 1844

[Tappan, Dec. 12 (1844), says he must answer Emerson's inquiries about Giles Waldo and William Ellery Channing and tells how Waldo had found Channing in the *Tribune* office.]

## To William Ellery Channing the Younger, Concord, December 17, 1844

[Incompletely printed in the *New-York Daily Tribune,* Dec. 20, 1844, where it is headed: "Mr. Hoar's Expulsion from S. Carolina. Extract of a private letter to a friend, dated

"Concord, Mass. Dec. 17, 1844."

This heading, the initial "I wish you would tell Mr. Greeley from me," the content and style of the whole, and the signature "E." all show, I believe, that the letter is Emerson's; and it seems almost certain that the person addressed was Channing, then working on the *Tribune.* At any rate, we have it on Sanborn's authority that Emerson did write to Channing on Dec. 17 of this year; and we have a quoted passage which curiously echoes, but does not repeat, that printed in the newspaper (see *The Personality of Emerson,* pp. 125–126).]

110. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

111. Dec. 3, 1844.

112. Whelan; see Oct. 14? 1844.

113. Dec.? *c.* 9? 1844.

114. *The New-York City Directory* for 1844–1845 lists a Federal Vanderburgh, physician.

## To William Emerson, Concord, December 17, 1844[115]

Concord, 17 Dec. 1844

Dear William

On my return from New Bedford[116] I found your box rich with garden sweets & shrubs waiting for me, & letters for Mother & Lidian All parties are greatly gratified excepting with the tidings of Hugh[117] and for the first time I saw my indiscretion in giving him money, instead of sending it to you. George P. B. has disposed of the shrubs as Hugh instructed him & they await the spring. Here is the miniature[118] at last for Susan. You must judge of it. I inquired of Mrs Hildreth respecting its price. She reports that on account of the larger size of the ivory she demands 35 dollars for the picture, and that the case costs $5.00. which you can return if you wish to frame it or if you wish to provide yourself with a case of a simpler pattern. If however, you keep the case, you must have it made tight by a piece of gold-beater's skin, to preserve the picture from the air.

I am in some consternation at costing Susan so much but I am very sure that the artist has bestowed unwearied pains on the picture, & Mr Saml Ripley told mother yesterday that it was perfect. If you don't like it, I think you must return it to the painter, & let her copy her first piece which is of a different expression.

Mr Hoar has returned home & gave me this morning a narrative of his visit to Charleston, which showed him to me in the most honorable light. He seems to have behaved with the utmost firmness & only came away when it would have been the part of a mule not of a man to remain.[119] We are all well & full of love to you & yours.

Waldo E.

115. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

116. See Nov. 25, 1844, to Rodman.

117. See Dec. 9, 1844.

118. *Cf.* Dec. 3, 1844.

119. See the other letters of Dec. 17 for fuller accounts. According to the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Dec. 12, 1844, Samuel Hoar had gone to South Carolina as the agent of Massachusetts to ascertain the names and number of citizens of Massachusetts imprisoned in South Carolina by virtue of laws which it was planned to test in the Supreme Court of the United States. Hoar was, says this account, expelled from South Carolina in accordance with a request to the governor from the legislature of that state.

## To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord, December 17, 1844

[Partly quoted in Cabot, I, 287; printed incompletely in *Letters from Ralph Waldo Emerson to a Friend,* pp. 56–59. A copy in Cabot's hand (owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL) includes most of what Norton printed, together with this opening passage:

"x x x I have always wished to know how hill countries look in winter but I doubt I shall never have vigor enough to go & see them."

*Cf.* also the note on Dec., 1844.]

## To Abby Larkin Adams, Concord, December 18, 1844 [120]

Dear Abby

I send the book all ragged as I have not been able to get it bound here & fear there will not be time to get it from Boston before your departure: so if you have time you shall have it bound for me, & if not, it will not suffer. Tell your Uncle that I talked with Mr Hoar yesterday, & am quite sure that he behaved with the utmost firmness & wisdom in very trying days at Charleston & came off with all honour.

Your friend,

R. W. Emerson

Concord, Wednesday Morn
18 Nov.

## To John Chapman, Concord, December 30, 1844 [121]

Concord, Dec 30 1844

Mr John Chapman

Dear Sir,

I am in your debt for two or three unanswered letters, & for important good deeds, besides. I received your reprint of my First of August Address, & was very well contented with the handsome pamphlet. I have also the reprint of the Essays [122] which Mrs Lee bro't [123]

120. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Comparison with the letters of Dec. 17, 1844, proves that the actual date of the present letter was Dec., not Nov., 18, 1844. And Dec. 18 fell on Wednesday in this year.

121. MS owned by Mr. Owen D. Young; ph. in CUL. For the beginning of Emerson's relations with Chapman, see a note on Oct. 31? 1844. The story of the publishing house of Chapman & Hall is told in Arthur Waugh, *A Hundred Years of Publishing,* 1930.

122. For the address of Aug. 1, 1844, and for the London edition of the second series of *Essays,* see the letters of Aug. 30 and Oct. 31? 1844.

123. Hannah F. Lee, Dec. 11, 1844, told of meeting the Carlyles in London and said she was sending a book intrusted to her care by the publisher.

me & your letter & accompanying newspapers; for all which you will accept my particular thanks. The style of the reprint is unexceptionable, &, wherever I have looked into it, appears carefully correct. There is an unlucky [keeps][124] for [keep] on the second page, in the second poetical motto to " the Poet." And though I have no motto to substitute, I should be glad if you print any more copies, to suppress the motto on the title-page. If your plan requires a motto for each member of your series, I will keep an eye open for any sentence I may meet which will serve. Also I should willingly drop the motto on the " Address ": but it is a trifle. I shall be sorry, & on your account also, if your public do not, as you intimate, like this book as well as its forerunner but I shall by no means accept their opinion in the first month as final. What I have not made, but only recorded, I am sure the experience of other men will confirm. I could easily give you a list such as you ask for of the few writings I have published in our literary journals, but I should not like to have them reprinted without a careful revision & correction by myself: which, if you think it desireable, I may undertake.[125] But I doubt — Old pieces are not sufficiently attractive to me to seem worth the labor. Our booksellers have repeatedly asked me to collect my verses into a volume, which perhaps I shall adventure.[126]

Respectfully, your obliged servant,
R. W. Emerson.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, December 31, 1844

[MS owned by RWEMA. Printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, December 31, 1844[127]

Concord, 31 Dec. 1844

Dear William

I have neglected to acknowledge the receipt of your letter & the order for $65.94 (I think) which it contained. I shall go or send to Boston in a day or two & shall send to Mrs Hildreth[128] her money

124. Both pairs of brackets are Emerson's.

125. *Cf.* May 30, 1845.

126. This sentence was written in a cramped hand and was pretty clearly inserted as an afterthought when the letter was already signed. But earlier letters show that Emerson had long had in mind the possibility of publishing his poems in a volume.

127. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

128. *Cf.* Dec. 17, 1844, to William Emerson.

& your message. I hope you will not keep the *case,* unless it is quite agreeable to you as Mrs H. sent it rather as a safeguard to the picture and thought you might easily prefer a frame which would cost you no more. So, if I pay her $40. before I hear from you I shall tell her not to pay her framer the 5. until I come again. This is Mother's message.

We are all well. Massachusetts is ominously quiet on the subject of S. Carolina. There are uncertain rumours of a meeting to be holden in this county [129] which Mr Webster has signified his willingness to attend. But Boston is very cool & ignoring. I hope Massachusetts will take no notice of the insult to Mr Hoar, or of the insult to herself, but only persist in requiring that her coloured citizens shall not be locked up. It is a good occasion for finding out whether there be a valid constitution of whose existence very many people are credulous to this day. Thanks to you for your timely attention to my friend Ellery. He wrote me that he was going to see you last Saturday. Of course I suppose he did not. His courage is pretty sure to fail him at the last hour. Dear love now, as the year closes, to you, & to Susan, & the boys, from me & Lidian & mother and from my girls if they were awake. Good night

R Waldo E

## To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord? December, 1844

[A brief passage is quoted in *The Early Years of the Saturday Club,* p. 262, where the date is given as Dec., 1844. It seems barely possible, however, that this is a part of the letter of Dec. 17, 1844, to Ward and was omitted without comment in the version of that letter printed in *Letters from Ralph Waldo Emerson to a Friend.* Or it could be, so far as I know, a part of Dec. 2 preceding.]

129. Samuel Hoar had already addressed the citizens of Concord at their town meeting, telling the story of his mission to South Carolina (*Concord Freeman,* Dec. 27, 1844). But the newspapers were, in general, almost silent on this topic.

# 1845

## To William Henry Furness, Concord? January *c.* 10? 1845

[It is clear from Jan. 31, 1845, that Emerson had recently written at least twice to Furness – or was on the point of writing a second time – about a proposal of Carey & Hart's; and this correspondence must have occurred after Emerson wrote the letter of Dec. 31, 1844, to Carlyle, which does not mention it. The second letter is definitely proved by a reference in June 29 following to Carlyle.]

## To Samuel E. Sewall, Concord, January 13, 1845

[MS listed in Stan. V. Henkels, Dec. 5, 1898. For Sewall, *cf.* Oct. 19, 1850.]

## To William Henry Furness, Concord? January *c.* 20? 1845

[See the note on Jan.? *c.* 10? 1845.]

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, January 31, 1845

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

## To William Ellery Channing the Younger, Concord? February 1, 1845

[Acknowledged in Channing, New York, Feb. 9, 1845 (MS owned by the Henry E. Huntington Library; ph. in possession of Mr. Rollo G. Silver). Channing describes himself as a child of impulse addressing Emerson, secure and firm, " cased in triple steel," and a " patron of the poor." Channing copies into his letter two poems he has written – " To my Wife " and " The City." The latter, like the letter proper, shows pretty clearly that the poet is weary of New York and homesick for his village. The New York adventure is alluded to in several letters of Dec., 1844; the letter of Apr. 5, 1845, seems to show that it was by that time definitely at an end.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, February 3, 1845[1]

[I]Concord, 3 Feb.[y] 1845[I]

Dear William,

Your letter to me & Susan's to Lidian & [II]the precious

1. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–III are in Cabot, II, 487.

gifts of the cousins to the cousins arrived as safely as such auspicious parcels should, which doubtless have all angels that love children to convoy them to their destination.[II] Lidian charges me to tell you how happily chosen was Ellen's pair of books which Mr Alcott had advised papa to procure for her, but Willie has anticipated the dilatory papa. And Edie's horn of enchantments appears every morning from Grandmamma's honoured crypts, to remind her of Haven; and little Edward shakes his rattle though he has no thought or name for cousin no dream of other little hands that have held the bauble. [III]A happy childhood have these babes of yours & mine: No cruel interferences, & what stores of happy days! We cannot look forward far, but these little felicities so natural & suitable to them should be introductory to better & not leading into any dark penumbra. We must arm them with as much good sense as we can, and throw them habitually on themselves for a moral verdict.[III] I remember Mary Rotch of New Bedford told me, that, in her childhood, her father & mother never told her to do this or to avoid that, but only, that there was one with her who would tell her, whilst she might very easily deceive them. My little Ellen is growing up a very intelligent child, a devourer of books with an endless memory for all hymns & juvenile poems. Her vivacity procures her many a chiding from all sides in the house & I doubt not, at school; but she is reasonable & convertible. Edith never does wrong, but spends all her soft days in every body's love. I could heartily wish, as we have so often wished before, that our little nurseries were near each other, — yours & mine. As the children grow older, the wish will often repeat itself.

Mother is as well as usual this winter, and things go tolerably well with us. In the spring we shall see you: our railroad is perfect & we will no longer be denied. With kindest remembrances to Susan from me & from us all, & to the boys,

I am, as ever, yours heartily,
Waldo —

### To Edward Jarvis, Concord, February 5, 1845

[MS listed in American Art Association, Mar. 13–14, 1928, where it is described as an invitation to appear at the Lyceum on the following Wednesday; partly reproduced in fácsimile *ibid.*, Mar. 3–4, 1925. The MS records of the Concord Lyceum (owned by the Concord Free Public Library) show that Jarvis duly appeared on Feb. 12, 1845, with his lecture "Health."]

### To William Henry Furness, Concord, February 7, 1845

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship,* p. 35. It seems probable that Emerson wrote again, in March, to inclose the letter from Carlyle which Furness acknowledged on Mar. 31, 1845 (*ibid.,* p. 36). The Carlyle letter was obviously that of Feb. 16, 1845 (*C–E Corr.*).]

### To Thomas A. Greene, Concord, February 7, 1845[2]

Concord, 7 February, 1845

My dear Sir,

I believe I cannot accept your friendly invitation to come to your Lyceum again this winter. It is very pleasant to me to go to New Bedford, and I find the fees of Lectures important to my Economy, but my distance from Boston makes the journey longer than I can easily make.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

Thomas A. Greene.

### To Caroline Sturgis, Concord? *c.* February? 1845[3]

x x Sam Ward came to see me on Monday & spent a night here. I was never so much impressed by the finished beauty of that person. He was a picture to look at as he sat, & his conversation was the most solid, graceful, well-informed, & elevated by his just sentiment. What sincere refinement! What a master in life! for his talk for the most part was of his new purchased farm, of the house & buildings he is to raise, of his village neighbours, & of Massachusetts & American politics. I compared this man, who is a performance, with others who seem to me only

2. MS owned by the National Library of Scotland; ph. in CUL. Benjamin Rodman wrote on the day of the present letter that he had heard from Greene of the invitation to Emerson to lecture at New Bedford in March and suggested that Emerson again be his guest.

3. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is an incomplete copy in Cabot's hand. The copyist indicates the name of the person addressed but dates the letter only as to year. For Emerson's part in arranging terms with James Munroe & Co. for Ward's translation of Goethe's essays, and for the publication of the little book, see a note on May 28 following. The present letter may have been written, I conjecture, shortly before the time, in early March of this year, when, we know, Emerson was negotiating with the publishers in Ward's behalf. Fourier appears more than once in the *Journals* during the early part of 1845.

prayers. How easily he rejects things he does not want, & never has a weak look or word. He recommends by his facility & fluency in it the existing world & society & Alcott & Fourier will find it the harder to batter it down. I found myself much warped from my own perpendicular & grown avaricious overnight of money & lands & buildings, after hearing this fine seigneur discourse so captivatingly of chateaux, gardens & collections of art. He brought with him his translations of Goethe's pieces on Art & left with me the one called the " Collector "; & the next day I found the images of Ward & of the " Collector " [4] perpetually blending themselves. He is like Goethe & Mme de Stael of that class of persons who should never die: they are so felicitously adapted to this world that it seems as if they must lose by being transferred to any other. —

### To Chandler Robbins, Concord, March 2, 1845

[Printed in *Our Pastors' Offering*, 1845, p. 34.]

### To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord, March? 12? 1845

[Printed in *Letters from Ralph Waldo Emerson to a Friend*, p. 60, where it is dated Feb., 1845. I believe it very probable, however, that the lecture by Wendell Phillips which Emerson says he heard " last night " was that on " Slavery " mentioned in the records of the Concord Lyceum as delivered on Mar. 11, 1845. The same records show that the adoption of a motion on Mar. 5 to invite Phillips to give this address caused the resignation of two of the curators, whereupon Emerson, Thoreau, and one other person were immediately elected (MS in the Concord Free Public Library).]

### To James Elliot Cabot, Concord, March 24, 1845 [5]

Concord, 24 March, 1845.

Dear Sir,

However unpardonable you may think my long de-

4. " The Collector and his Friends " is one of the essays which Ward translated.

5. MS owned by Professor Philip Cabot; ph. in CUL. The address is to " J. Elliot Cabot, Esq.," at Divinity Hall, Cambridge. Cabot had graduated as a bachelor of arts at Harvard in 1840 and was to receive the degree of bachelor of laws before the end of 1845. Emerson had published in *The Dial* one anonymous contribution by him (see Feb. 26, 1844), but it is clear that so far he had not known Cabot personally. The beginning of the long friendship between Emerson and his later editor and biographer is recorded in May 28, 1845. A sketch of Cabot by T. W. Higginson is in *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, XXXIX, 649–655; and one by Edward Waldo Emerson is printed in *The Early Years of the Saturday Club*, pp. 260–268.

tention of your Manuscript,[6] I beg you to know that I take to myself great credit for returning it so soon. I am in fact very unwilling to part with it, as it is a piece of that rare kind which I like to keep in my drawer, and often see, if I do not often read in it. I have read it with what carefulness I could three or four times through, and I seem to myself by no means to have exhausted its interest. I think today that whatever I might write, would be a plagiarism from it. But I can easily believe that what I prize so highly, others may also prize, & that you may be disposed to print it, as is most fit. I have much regretted that our poor "Dial" did not last long enough to publish this paper. I do not now know a single journal here in which it seems rightly to belong, and if you have not in your mind given it a special destination, I should ask to have the custody of it again, until presently, as seems inevitable, we have a liberal journal here on the best footing.

If you ever ride or walk so far into Middlesex, it would be a great pleasure to me to show you the good points about our quiet village.

Yours, With great esteem & respect,

R. W. Emerson.

J. Elliot Cabot, Esq.

## To William Emerson, Concord, April 5, 1845[7]

Concord, April 5, 1845.

Dear William,

Certainly you were entitled to hear from us all long ago, long before the arrival of your letter & its cheque, which punctually came, as is the custom of its sender, on the day, or before the day when it is looked for. That you have not heard, indicates, I suppose, the lazy prosperity in which we all here have been indulged, without any sharp mischances or terrors to drive us to thought & communication. Life wears on with us peacefully enough, not very gloriously, with no special pomp of thoughts, certainly with no splendor of deeds, promising us every day some compensation on the morrow for its shortcoming; and dimming little by little the lustre on our toys which once made the day & the world shine, so that by & by we shall, no doubt, be easily per-

6. Doubtless what Emerson described in his letter of Dec., 1844, to Ward, as "an admirable paper on Spinoza sent me months ago for the *Dial* by a correspondent whom I have just discovered to be Elliot Cabot, in the law school at Cambridge, son of Samuel Cabot."

7. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is in Cabot, II, 487.

suaded to quit them without much ado. [1]I do not wonder that you & Susan delight in the boys. I spend a great deal of time on my little trinity, for my own pleasure too — if we could divide it from theirs. But these interests are luckily inseparable, and all our cordial study of the bewitching manners & characters of the children is a more agreeable kind of self knowledge & a repairing of the defects of our memory of those earliest experiences.[1] But I had only to say that in general our children have been well, as we. — Mother is calmly preparing for her *May* visit to you, & goes to Boston, I believe, next week. She has enjoyed her usual health & equanimity this winter, and knows very well how to entertain herself with as little demand on society as any one can make.

Ellery Channing has been here in our house a week or two, exploring Concord again for a farm which he would buy. As I feared, he never would be caught by you, — the shy hermit, — friendly & polite as he owned your invitations were. Tappan & Waldo he made much acquaintance with successively, though he was long in beginning with them. Waldo went off to the Sandwich Islands, vice-consul,[8] & Ellery who had lived a little with him, then managed to take a room with Tappan for a time.

I am sorry as we all are sorry to hear no better news of Hugh. I would most gladly employ him, but on consideration how little land I have & how much labour already, viz. George B.'s & mine think I have no right to. Hugh proposed to come back if I would buy Warren's field[9] next me, and for his board he wd cultivate my land to the halves. But I have not bought it. George threatens to go away if his school does not render a better return. In that case, I should covet Hugh the more. —

8. Giles Waldo, U. S. Consulate, Lahaina, Sandwich Islands, Sept. 8, 1845, reported that he expected to enter formally upon his duties as vice-consul in the course of a week or so. He had, he said, been offered the post of Lord High Chancellor or Lord Chief Justice on condition that he would take the oath of allegiance, which he would not do. Any letters written to Waldo from Concord at this time seem to have disappeared completely, with those which Emerson had certainly written to the same correspondent earlier. Dr. Homer F. Barnes informs me that he has found in the Hawaiian Archives a letter of Sept. 5, 1845, from the United States commercial agent to the minister of foreign affairs in the Islands, stating that Waldo has been appointed vice-commercial agent at Lahaina, on the island of Maui. Three later letters of Waldo, from Honolulu and Lahaina in 1845–1846, are extant but do not acknowledge anything from Emerson.

9. The purchase of this field is recorded in a letter of Feb. 13, 1847. The unusual spelling in the fifth sentence following apparently resulted from a half-hearted attempt to make an adjective of an adverb.

Thanks for your account also. I am sorry that the momentaryy disappearance of my *Ledger* hinders me from giving you the last items in mine. You shall have them by George Bradford who is coming to look at you some time soon on his way up the river. Do not speak to him of leaving me

With love to Susan & to the boys, yours.

Waldo.

### To Carey and Lea, Concord? April? 8? 1845

[Mentioned in Apr. 8, 1845, as inclosed in that letter and to be used as an advertisement in the Philadelphia edition of Carlyle's miscellanies. Presently Emerson realized that he had given the firm name incorrectly and had made some other error in this letter and so inclosed a second in June 2, 1845.]

### To William Henry Furness, Concord, April 8, 1845

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship*, p. 38.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, April 15, 1845[10]

Concord, Apr. 15, 1845

Dear William,

Do not fail, I pray you, of carrying home our well beloved George P. B. to Staten Island one night with you, & showing him the farm whereof he hears so much with so much good will. He will tell you & Susan how we all live & thrive. Tell him what you know of Hugh, of whom I do not willin[gly][11] lose hold, yet cannot quite take hold.

I wish you would tell George, or tell me, what wages you ordinarily or extraordinarily pay that artiste. Before another year I may decide to buy Warren's field. Mother is in Boston, and this year is to have, I hope, a little money from her rents. Last year, she had none, and less than none, and the year before little. The sun begins to warm us in these cold parts & to tell Hugh's secrets in the garden.

Ever yours

Waldo

10. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

11. The edge of the manuscript is mutilated.

### To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord? April 30, 1845 [12]

x x Grafting & pruning turn a day into pure dream & seem to promise the happy operator a dateless longevity, inasmuch as it appears to be a suspension of all expenditure: only he must not cut his fingers x x Did you read Vestiges of Creation.[13] The journals I am told abound with strictures & Dr Jackson told me how shallow it was, but I found it a good approximation to that book we have wanted so long & which so many attempts have been made to write. All the competitors have failed, & the new Vyvian, if it be he has outdone all the rest in breadth & boldness & one only want to be assured that his facts are reliable. I have been reading a little in Plato (in translation unhappily) with great comfort & refreshment

### To William Henry Furness, Concord, May 9, 1845

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship,* p. 39.]

### To Frederic Henry Hedge, Concord, May 10, 1845? [14]

Concord, 10 May.

My dear Hedge,

We have been looking for you — George & I — this fortnight & more, confiding in your promise to come, so fully, that we have not thought to send invitations. I beg you will not disappoint us any longer. I shall be at home, as I believe, every day next week; and

12. MSS owned by RWEMA; phs. in CUL. These are two incomplete copies, both made by Cabot, who has indicated on each the date and the person addressed. I have based the present text upon the longer copy but have included what appears only in the shorter.

13. Robert Chambers's *Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation,* first published in 1844, is the subject of two entries of 1845 in the *Journals* (VII, 52 and 69). *Cf.* also the letter of June 17, 1845.

14. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription, to Hedge at Cambridge, is written on the same sheet with the letter, which was folded and sealed without an envelope. The date is probably, then, earlier than 1850. The years before that date which are possible or at all probable, so far as my own information goes, seem to be 1841, 1844, 1845, 1846, and 1849. As George Bradford lived in Concord during some months in 1845, that year seems the most probable. The poems referred to might be those of Elizabeth Dodge Kinney mentioned in May 19, 1845; but this is entirely conjectural. Emerson was doubtless much concerned about this time with his own projected volume of poems.

let us look for you on Monday, if you like that. We dine at 4½, and your chamber is ready. Poems also I have to show you. So come

Yours affectionately

R. W. Emerson.

### To William Emerson, Concord, May 12, 1845

[WmE List.]

### To William Burnet Kinney, Concord? May *c.* 13, 1845

[Mentioned in May 19, 1845.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, May 14, 1845

[WmE List.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, May 19, 1845[15]

Concord, 19 May, 1845

Dear William,

I am very sorry to say that all my efforts to recover the lost trunk, or to hear any thing concerning it, have hitherto proved vain. I have sent Adams,[16] our Express, immediately on hearing from Elizabeth, in all probable directions: The next day I saw Mr Felton the superintendent of the Road,[17] & gave him a written description of it. On Saturday, I went to Boston and saw him again and I have spoken or sent to all the Conductors & Expresses on the road,[18] — still in vain. At Fitchburg and at Concord & at Boston, it is not. Yet it did not sink into the ground. Mr Felton is sure it is not lost forever, but will come to light by a little waiting, and strongly dissuaded from advertising. It was of no use, he said. He sent his messengers to the stage offices. At present, I await as one who has very little hope. I have not learned whether Mother had her money in the trunk, or in her bag. The equivocal consolation that if she has lost her trunk, somebody has found it who may be the better for it, & its contents, must comfort her.

15. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

16. Probably Augustus Adams (*cf.* July 13, 1841, to Lidian Emerson and Oct. 26, 1846); but it is possible that Emerson means Alvin Adams, of Adams & Co., who was already on his way to fame as the chief founder of a great express company (*cf.* Alvin F. Harlow, *Old Waybills*, 1934, pp. 25 ff.).

17. *Cf.* June *c.* 29? 1845. In the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of May 19, 1845, the notice of the Fitchburg Rail Road appeared over the name of S. M. Felton, "Engineer."

18. Possibly there was some correspondence on Emerson's part.

In the meantime, Lidian sends her love to mother & wishes her orders for any articles that are left here, which can for the time make good this most vexatious mischance, and she will gladly set Miss Minott [19] in friendly operation if Mamma will say what she most wants. Meantime you must pay Mother whatever money she needs, and I will divide the sum with you. Please tell mother from Lidian that L. pleases herself much with her new nursery maid & with the engagement of the nursery maid's aunt to come here to be cook next Thursday. Mrs Brown's well was dug & three good feet of water found at the bottom the day before the plenteous rains set in, and the lumber for the house [20] is piled & piling on the bank in today's sun. John Milton Emerson of Heath a grandson of father's *Uncle John* & son of Dr Emerson late of Heath [21] is to dine with me today. a very likely youth He is nephew of my neighbor J. M. Cheney the cashier. With love to Susan to Mother to Elizabeth, to the boys, ever yours,

Waldo –

Immediately on receiving your last letter I wrote [22] to W. B. Kinney of Newark, on the subject of the poems [23] you mentioned, which I had heinously neglected.

## To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord, May 28, 1845 [24]

Concord, 28 May, 1845.

My dear friend,

The Essays on Art [25] came safely & welcome, and I have read them with heed & satisfaction. They are good on all grounds, a

19. *Cf.* Nov. 15, 1840.

20. *Cf.* Oct. 4, 1844, and Aug. 3, 1845.

21. See *The Ipswich Emersons*, p. 183, for Dr. Joseph Emerson of Heath, Mass., and other members of the family mentioned here. Joseph Emerson had married Sarah E. Cheney.

22. Letter of May *c.* 13, 1845.

23. Doubtless MS poems by Elizabeth Dodge Kinney, wife of William B. Kinney, the Newark editor (see *The American Female Poets*, ed. Caroline May, 1869, pp. 185 ff.). *Cf.* Apr. 8, 1850, to Mrs. Kinney.

24. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The address is to Ward at Lenox, Mass.

25. *Essays on Art by Goethe. Translated by Samuel Gray Ward*, Boston, 1845, the gift of the translator, is still in the Emerson library at the Antiquarian House; and James Munroe & Co., Mar. 7, 1845, shows that Emerson helped arrange for its publication. The book was listed for sale in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of May 30, 1845. It contains the chapters "Upon the Laocoon" and "The Pictures of Philostratus" mentioned below.

strong sensible wise book that one can bear to read & to keep, and then also with the agreeable addition that the book is not cabalistic, but can lie in the college libraries & public reading rooms, & go to remove that local *prestige* against Goethe, by vindicating his claim to the largest share of good sense possessed by his contemporaries. The Laocoon even seems to have a good luck for Boston, and will give a new interest to the sculpture gallery this summer. The book should have been a little larger, say, two chapters more, I think, which I hope you will prepare for the second edition. The " Pictures of Philostratus " give one the most room to pause, & the attempt to supply to the eye the *Ancient* Vatican,[26] by a few paragraphs of modern rhetoric is daringly German, and Punch should write his best letter on the occasion. If I understand the matter, the Poniatowski gems were a real guide & memorandum,[27] and this is an academic exercise. After I have settled comfortably into this view, they are pleasing inventions enough, only prose instead of pictures must be faint & cold.

I have not been in town for a fortnight, & do not even know if the good book is published there, for Ellery affirms that it has not been advertised. I doubt he speaks of the " Atlas " newspaper, whose devotion to aesthetics does not amount to a religion. In a day or two I am to go. I have lately made Elliot Cabot's acquaintance,[28] who is a rare scholar, though a better metaphysician than poet. And there is one person whom you must not & will not fail to see in your own and Heaven's good time, William A. Tappan of New York, son of Lewis T. I was wonderfully attracted by his singular beauty in the great city, but he seems to have worked more powerfully on Ellery's imagination last winter. But I remember that you have seen Ellery since, & perhaps he has described our phœnix. The happiest summer follow these celestial days to you & to me & to all! With affectionate remembrances to Anna, ever yours,

R. W. E.

26. Goethe supposed Philostratus described actual pictures. If such a collection actually existed, in the house of Julia Domna or elsewhere, it would have some claim, no doubt, to Emerson's epithet.

27. Emerson perhaps refers to the *Explanatory Catalogue of the Proof-impressions of the Antique Gems Possessed by the Late Prince Poniatowski,* published in London, 1841, with a prefatory essay on ancient gems written by James Prendeville.

28. *Cf.* Mar. 24, 1845.

## To John Chapman, Concord, May 30, 1845 [29]

Concord, 30 May, 1845.

Mr John Chapman,

My dear Sir,

I hasten to say that with the best wishes for its success, I cannot take any leading part in your "Journal." [30] The extreme inconvenience of working at such a distance, &, much more the inaccessibleness to me of the persons in England to be consulted, put it out of all question. Nor can I even invite Mr Carlyle to a part in the work, for besides that he is at present more than enough occupied with his history and its collateral engagements it would be quite out of my way to propose to him objects & connexions in his own neighborhood. If the journal were edited & issued here, I should gladly ask his aid, & that of others near you. For the present, then, I can only proffer my own contribution, if the Journal really goes into effect, & suits me. I have two or three friends, on whose capacity & good will I can rely,

29. MS owned by Messrs. G. A. Baker & Co.; ph. in CUL. A rough draft owned by RWEMA (ph. in CUL) was endorsed by Emerson: "Copy of Letter to J. Chapman on his 'Journal' May 1845."

30. *The Prospective Review,* Chapman's new version of the old *Christian Teacher,* was at this time in its first volume, but Emerson clearly takes Chapman's letter (which I have not found) to refer to an entirely new project. Chapman had offered his services to Emerson as publisher some months earlier (see a note on Oct. 31? 1844); and about the same time Theodore Parker wrote Emerson a letter which, in spite of its date, seems not to have been mailed till Sept. 11:

"West-Roxbury, 12, Aug./44

"Dear Sir

"It will be some weeks before I shall be able to see you — I fear —; so in the mean time I will write on a matter of literary business wh. I was requested to *speak* to you about. Mr Chapman — a transcendental bookseller (121, Newgate Street London) — successor to Mr J. H. Greene the Unitarian & Transcendental Bibliopole for all England hitherto — wishes to start a *new* Dial i. e. a monthly Magazine — to be printed in London — to be written for by *yourself* — Mr *Carlyle, Tennyson, Hamden — Bailey* & such others as may be — not excepting *Jas. Martineau* & Mr *Thom.* He is sanguine of writers, — & readers none the less — I am sanguine of neither, & think the thing will never go — But he requested me to see if you would 'coöperate,' with him & his in case such a thing was started. — — — — I mentioned to Jas. Munroe & Co *Chapman's plan for taking out a copyright of your forth-coming volume* — & was glad to find it was already in process of Execution. A Scotch Bookseller at Cambridge told me that of your Essays — & another volume containing Lectures, orations &c — between 5000 & 6000 had already been sold. It is a pity this could not be made to give you money — as well as minister to the 'last infirmity of noble mind.' I have many things to say when I shall see you — Please remember me to Mrs E. & Miss Hoar.

"Yours truly

Theo. Parker"

"R. W. Emerson

whom I should like to set at work with able & willing men. But I think you must take this with you at the outset, that though we shall think it amiable and auspicious to take a part, it would be out of all order for Americans to lead in an English design.

Thanks for your ready attention to the *Errata* in the Essays.[31] I have forgotten earlier to say that the " Discourse " read before the Divinity College in Cambridge, of which you asked for a copy, has been reprinted in London with other of my pieces in " Smith's Standard Library," [32] I think they called [it.][33] I suppose I must take some thought for the collecting & the correcting of these things, & I hope soon to send you some reasonable word concerning it. I am really bent now on collecting a volume of poems from the pieces I have scattered in the Dial & elsewhere with some MSS of that kind which may seem fit to print, and of this book I mean to send you a timely transcript. Some readers hard to please have from different quarters sent me requests to this effect which confirm my purpose. One word more. There is a book which I very much want of which this is the title. " The *Bhagvat Geeta,* or Dialogues of Kreeshna & Arjoon; in eighteen lectures; with notes. Translated from the original in the Sanskreet, or ancient language of the Brahmins, by *Charles Wilkins;* London: C Nourse; 1785 [34] Can you procure this for me at any reasonable price for I do not want it at *virtu* rates?

I owed you a special acknowledgment for your spirited defence of my poor book & name against the attacks of some of the Unitarians.[35] But, on the whole, I have long ago settled that it is best not to set up any defence at all, but go on affirming as long as God will let us. Yours thankfully,

R. W. Emerson

31. *Cf.* Dec. 30, 1844.

32. The cover of the pamphlet referred to bears the name of the series, *Smith's Standard Library,* followed by the title *Nature: an Essay. And Orations.* This was published by William Smith, London, 1844.

33. The edge of the MS is torn.

34. In the manuscript an irregular line has been drawn about the title. Emerson probably took down this title from a copy of the book belonging to Cabot. It was through Cabot, I think, that he had his first opportunity to read the famous dialogue in complete form (*cf.* the letters of June 17 and Aug. 3, 1845), though he had his first taste from Cousin many years earlier (see a note on May 24, 1831). A reference, in Aug. 19, 1846, to Cabot's " extracts from the Bhagavat " probably means, I think, the complete volume, which was indeed an extract from a vast epic little known to Emerson; or it may mean some MS extracts which Emerson had from Cabot in addition to the printed book.

35. The second series is defended against critics of some of its author's religious views in *The Prospective Review,* I, 252–262.

## To John Sullivan Dwight, Concord? June? *c.* 1? 1845

[Incompletely printed, without place or date, in Cooke, *John Sullivan Dwight*, pp. 103–105, where it is described as written when *The Harbinger* " was being planned." The first number of that journal was for June 14, 1845, so that the present letter must have been earlier than that date. Emerson obviously steered clear of the new venture because of his distaste for Fourierism. He would, he wrote, " heartily rejoice to aid in an uncommitted journal."]

## To Carey and Hart, Concord, June 2? 1845

[Printed in Carlyle, *Critical and Miscellaneous Essays*, Philadelphia, Carey & Hart, 1846, " Advertisement." For the date, *cf.* June 2, 1845, where the present letter is described as " the new note, which I enclose." The date as printed is simply June, 1845. For the old note, see Apr.? 8? 1845.]

## To William Henry Furness, Concord, June 2, 1845

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship*, pp. 40–41.]

## To Elizabeth Hoar, Concord, June 17, 1845[36]

Concord, 17 June.

Dear Elizabeth,

So many weeks of leisure & society, cities, & roses,[37] & never a word to your poor brother. Even the affectionate islanders have failed us this time, & in their rare letters give no tidings of you. Margaret also wrote [38] but said she had not yet seen you. Nor had William Channing when he came. — The last gave us country people much to

36. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is printed in David Lee Maulsby, *Emerson his Contribution to Literature*, n.d. (c. 1911), pp. 122–123, where the letter is wrongly dated June, 1843. Excerpt II is in *Cent. Ed.*, XII, 423–424, where the same year is given. Evidence cited below shows that the letter was written in 1845.

37. The address is to Elizabeth Hoar at New York. For earlier mention of her journey to the southward, see Dec. 3, 1844.

38. She had written this brief letter:

" N. Y. May 22d 45.

" Dear Waldo,

" Thirteen copies of Summer on the Lakes were sent to your address in Boston, five for you, four for Caroline, four to be sent to Sarah Clarke through James, if you will take the trouble

" Charles Newcomb has been here & we have had a good meeting Your Mrs Black has been to see me, & I liked her pretty well; considering she claims to belong to the sacred band. Did you go to the Wachusett? I have not yet seen Elizh

" Your friend Margaret."

Probably there were letters from Emerson to Margaret Fuller during this year, but I have not found them.

think, but it ended unsatisfactorily. It was only plain that there was much to thank God for in that particular demonstration called W. H. C. Abby Adams & Lucia Russell came out at the same time and one by music & the other by beauty gave sincere pleasure. . . Caroline S. staid a week into June,[39] and then departed to Woburn. Of her there is always much to say. [I]The only other event is the arrival in Concord of the "Bhagvat-Geeta," the much renowned book of Buddhism, extracts of which I have often admired but never before held the book [40] in my hands.[I] The rhyming mania in which you left me did not leave me dry on the cool beach of prose until after an inundation — say rather an undulation or two more. Now again, like all cockles we open our parched fissures & pray to the god of the sea. [II]Mr Cabot came up hither [41] & comforted the dry land with a little philosophy. Is not philosophy the simular poetry of the Understanding, the mirage of Sahara? Tax me not with levity and the old aloofness. I truly revolve, with humble docility & desire, the world old problems. I worship the real, I hate the critical and athwart the whole skyfull of imperfections can keep a [42] some steady sight of the perfect, opening there a new horizon.[II]

New books we have but you do not care for those Lord's Poems [43] & the Life of Leibnitz.[44] Eothen [45] & the Vestiges [46] you have read? the Vestiges, the Vestiges? Farewell, dear sister,

Waldo.

### To Samuel Morse Felton, Concord? June *c.* 29? 1845

[Mentioned in June 29, 1845, to William Emerson.]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, June 29, 1845

[MS rough draft, incomplete, owned by RWEMA. Printed (from rough draft) in *C–E Corr.*, 1886.]

39. *Cf. Journals,* VII, 60. The points preceding this sentence are in the MS.

40. *Cf.* May 30, 1845. Emerson's epithet "the much renowned book of Buddhism" shows that he was still uncertain of his bearings in the Orient. He quoted the new book in *Journals* about this time (VII, 68).

41. *Cf.* May 28, 1845, and a note on May 30 of the same year.

42. The following word Emerson very effectively deleted but failed to cancel the "a."

43. *Poems, by William W. Lord,* New York and Philadelphia, 1845. According to the *New-York Daily Tribune* of May 17, 1845, the book was published on that day. It was reviewed *ibid.*, May 19, 1845.

44. Probably John Milton Mackie's *Life of Godfrey William von Leibnitz,* Boston, 1845.

45. Alexander Kinglake's *Eothen,* a book on the East, had appeared in 1844.

46. See Apr. 30, 1845.

## To William Emerson, Concord, June 29, 1845[47]

Concord, 29 June, 1845

Dear William,

Mr Felton the superintendent of the Fitchburg Rail Road writes me a letter to this effect —

"I have not been able to yet to hear from your trunk definitely.[48] I think from all I can learn, it was taken from the Depot on one of the stages. Will you be good enough to write me what you think the company should do, under the circumstances & I will endeavour to conform to your wishes as far as. I can."

I replied after some consideration that I would apprise my mother of the contents of his note & convey to him her reply.[49] — I entreat you to tell me what answer you would counsel your mother to make. —

We have looked eagerly for Susan these two days back, & shall continue to look until she comes. She must not baulk us, for really the episode to her journey will be very short & easy. I have written the preceding page on the supposition that Mother is already leaving you & will be here before you read this, but if not, you shall give her your advice. —

Yours ever

Waldo

## To Silas G. Randall, Concord? July 2, 1845

[Acknowledged in Randall, Middlebury College, July 7, 1845, thanking Emerson for his acceptance and stating that the address will be expected on July 22.]

## To Samuel Morse Felton, Concord? July *c.* 7? 1845

[Mentioned in July 7, 1845.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, July 7, 1845[50]

Concord 7 July 1845

Dear William,

Here is a letter from Mother & another from Bulkeley, who is here since Saturday, & appears very well. I have not yet made

47. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

48. *Cf.* May 19, 1845. The superfluous " to " is presumably the fault of Emerson's too hasty copying. Throughout this paragraph the MS has quotation marks at the beginning of each line.

49. *Cf.* July 7, 1845.

50. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

any agreement with his host Mr Hall as to the rate of board, as it was an experiment, and could not be estimated in advance. I have written to Mr Felton that Mother estimates her loss at $50.00 & instructs me to say that she regrets the necessity of making the claim, & will be content to divide the loss with the comp.y. If you should know of any school or tutorship for Gorham Bartlett, George Bradford would gladly hear. We are sorry that our railroad has not yet made us open & accessible to Susan. Affectionately.

Waldo

## To Caroline Sturgis? Concord? July 9, 1845 [51]

x x x I know how much certain swift spirits value instant communication, but time has also his indefeasible honours & rewards in this as in all things & this old goodwill of ours will survive many acquaintances we shall yet form as it has done many already x x x

## To William Emerson, Concord, July 18, 1845 [52]

Concord, 18 July, 1845

Dear William

I perceive with some surprise this morning on looking at my memorandum that the Wesleyan University keeps its holiday on 6th August.[53] I supposed it was much later, or should have written you, since I mean to come to Staten Island on that occasion, if you are at home. How is that? Is there a court at Rochester, or Canandaigua, on that very day, which his Honor must attend? If you are to be absent, say on the 7th or 8th please to write me so. Tomorrow I go to Middlebury for Tuesday next.[54] I received yesterday your note brought by Eliz Prichard & read Aunt Mary's letter. Her omission to Elizabeth would surprise no one who knows her of late years but no one who knows her would think of taxing her. She is her own daily victim, unstable & whimsical & self tormenting and so tormenting those about her, in the

51. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is a fragmentary copy in Cabot's hand. The copyist has definitely indicated the date but may have intended to cancel the initials "C. S."

52. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

53. *Cf.* Aug. 3, 1845.

54. Emerson had accepted the invitation to Middlebury in his letter of July 2, 1845. For a newspaper report of the discourse of July 22, see a note on Aug. 7 following.

most extraordinary & painful degree. But all argument on the matter is wasted, & her friends have only to keep as cool & as kindly as they can manage it, towards this gifted but most unhappy woman. With kind messages to Susan & to you from all the household, E H included who is here today, and to the boys;

Your affectionate brother
Waldo

Bulkeley is well & goes back to Littleton tomorrow He has been here these three weeks in the most comfortable state. I have not sent you the amounts of his two last accounts at the M Lean Asylum which are;
to 1 April 39.91
to 11 May 17.85
I have as yet fixed no price with Mr Hall; & have a charge or two beside of small amt. on Bulkeleys acct. but no time to look them up.

## To James Elliot Cabot, Concord, August 3, 1845 [55]

Concord, 3 August 1845

My dear Sir,

I fear you find me in your thought the most ungrateful of men. It is most true that I have received & do retain all the brave pledges you have sent me. The Bhagavat Geeta [56] I cannot yet restore; the translation of Schelling,[57] Ellery Channing carried away, & kept, & has just returned to me: The Essay on Romanism, I have read once, but as yet too interruptedly to have mastered it – I should be very proud of the college, if I could believe it had its eyes open, & found better papers. The ' Purana ' [58] I carried with me to Vermont, & read with wonder in the mountains. Nothing in theology is so subtle as this & the Bhagavat. And lastly Mr Tuckerman's book [59] I read in with great pleasure & respect. I have been making a literary speech to the students of Middlebury College,[60] & have now a similar errand this week at Middletown in

55. MS owned by Professor Philip Cabot; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to J. Elliot Cabot, in care of Samuel Cabot, Boston.

56. See the letters of May 30 and June 17, 1845.

57. Apparently this and the essay on Romanism remained unpublished (*cf.* Sept. 1, 1845, to Cabot). Cabot seems to have heard Schelling lecture at Berlin (*The Early Years of the Saturday Club*, p. 261).

58. There are some references to *The Vishnu Purana* in the *Journals* for this year (VII, 119 and 127–129).

59. See Sept. 1, 1845, to Cabot.

60. See July 18, 1845.

Connecticutt; [61] these with the accident of some company at home, and the building of the house I am finishing opposite mine,[62] have made my bad habits worse, and my negligence is gross. But I shall trust entirely to your magnanimity & shall perhaps keep your things a good deal longer, yet I hope one day to give you a good account of them. With great regard,

R. W. Emerson

To Lidian Emerson, Middletown, Connecticut, August 7, 1845 [63]

Middletown, 7 August

Dear Lidian,

I had a prosperous journey & arrived here Tuesday [64] a little before sundown. The town itself has great advantages of situation & its upper street is rich with country palaces. Yesterday I attended the Commencement *through,* and the boys will compare well with their contemporaries anywhere. I found Governor Baldwin [65] here, — tell Elizabeth, — with his daughter Elizabeth? We had a little chat two or three times And I hoped to see them more, but they escaped out of town in some part of the day. I dined with the College and was curiously perhaps diplomatically placed at table so that whilst so immediately near to the President & dignitaries that my dignity, if I had any, could not complain, I was yet so completely insulated, that my heresy, if heresy I had,[66] were it ever so wolfish, could not bite or inoculate anybody with venom. Dr Olin the President is a social man, of broad courteous presidential manners, & people seem fond & proud of him. At 5' in the afternoon, I met the Societies & made my speech, which passed very well, & certainly was all the better for having had a rehearsal at Middlebury. The young men asked a copy for printing, and I then told them its history, & found I was telling them no news, for the New-York Tribune [67] had already told them of the oration in Vermont & its subject. Well I assured them that the oration was now enlarged & retrenched for them, & if I printed it I would do it on my own charge &

61. See Aug. 7, 1845.

62. *Cf.* May 19, 1845.

63. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The year is clearly 1845.

64. *Cf.* July 18, 1845.

65. Roger S. Baldwin was governor of Connecticut 1844–1846. The daughter was probably Elizabeth Wooster Baldwin (*cf.* Samuel Dutton, *An Address . . . February 23, 1863,* 1863, p. 28).

66. Some heresy was detected. *Cf.* Aug. 14, 1845.

67. In the *New-York Daily Tribune* of Aug. 4, 1845, there was a very favorable account of the address at Middlebury: ". . . notwithstanding the prejudices enter-

they might order any copies they pleased. Last evening I attended the President's levee & saw again all the Alumni & the Bishop Janes & all the fathers of Methodism. A revolution you know has overtaken them of which this college is the fruit. They called themselves the preachers of the poor. they were the preachers of the ignorant and they preached ignorance & thought learning a disqualification. Now they have several colleges in the Union, and this one in New England; and both opinions — that old doubt of books, & this new ambition of books, — produce together a little occasional confusion. This morning at 9½ I go to New Haven by stage & railroad, & thence to N. Y. by steamboat to be there say at 6 this eve. So I hope you are well & all your charges senior & junior. & will sustain I dare say no harm by the absence of your mankind: for George [68] I suppose is already gone. With love to Mamma & to the babes Yours affectionately,

W.

I must not omit to tell you that I was introduced to Mrs Hamilton, the widow of of Alexander Hamilton.[69]

To Lidian Emerson, New York, August 9, 1845 [70]

New York Aug 9 1845

Dear Lidian,

I have been very comfortably conveyed & lodged from Middletown;.[71] to N. Y.; at Staten Island; since I last wrote you. I found William & Susan, & their three fine boys in good health. Their news however from Portsmouth have decided them to go thither & they, — that is W. & S., & little Charley set out for Boston & Portsmouth this P. M. They mean on their return to come to Concord & see you & W^m^ expects to be at Concord on Wednesday. Perhaps Susan will remain longer at P. My own design was to go up the North River tomorrow, but there is no boat. So I shall wait until Monday morn at 7 o'clock, then go to Albany & to Lenox, & if I find the Ward's at home, stop one day there, & get home on Wednesday — at night I suppose. I have just seen Margaret Fuller. Others I have sought & not found. There is little

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tained in this region with regard to the peculiar views of the Transcendentalists, the earnest and eloquent exposition of the 'natural functions of the scholar and educated man,' by Ralph Waldo Emerson was listened to with an intensity of interest and pleasure, rarely observed on such an occasion."

68. Bradford.

69. Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton survived her husband half a century.

70. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

71. See Aug. 7, 1845.

to tell you that requires the pen, so I *restrict* myself to this notice of our joint movements. And with love to Mother & to the babes, I shall be glad to be out of this maelstroom.

Yours affectionately,

Waldo

This proposition to visit you is one of Susan's It was already arranged before I came. So you are quite wrong in thinking your friends do not wish to come & see you.

## To Stephen Olin, Concord, August 14, 1845 [72]

Concord, 14 Aug. 1845

My dear Sir,

I arrived at home last evening from Lenox & New York, & found your letter.[73] I am quite obliged to you for your friendly criticism and though I have left my Manuscript on the way, I can easily believe that there were some petulances of expression which a more considerate taste would correct. I doubt not that I can remove some expressions that may have disturbed some of your friends and perhaps thereby improve the fitness & the truth of the piece. I shall look at it with care.

Yours with great respect,

Rev. President Olin. R. W. Emerson.

## To Evert Augustus Duyckinck, Concord, August 25, 1845 [74]

Concord, 25 August, 1845.

Evert A. Duyckinck, Esq

Dear Sir,

I have delayed my reply to your letter for several days because I did not wish to send a refusal, when you had kindly

72. MS owned by the New York Public Library; ph. in CUL.

73. Stephen Olin, Middletown, Conn., Aug. 8, 1845, said he had heard Emerson speak on the 6th and could not agree with some of the views expressed. He feared that the address, if published as delivered, would give offense to patrons of the college, who were, he said, mostly religious people unaccustomed to speculation. He asked Emerson whether he would not be willing to modify some statements before publishing. Perhaps Emerson decided not to publish because the address, simply a revision of what he had read at Middlebury, was already known to readers through the newspaper report (*cf.* Aug. 7, 1845). For the use made of portions of Emerson's MS, see Cabot, II, 752.

74. MS owned by the New York Public Library; ph. in CUL. Duyckinck, then

opened so many doors for my compliance. But I believe it is not in my power to undertake either to furnish Messrs Wiley & Putnam with a new book, or with a compilation of my scattered papers. The principal objection to the second, lies in this, that I have a sort of friendly understanding with Mr John Chapman of London, bookseller, who some time ago proposed to publish my things in London,[75] on a system of half profits, and has not ceased to solicit me from time to time to collect these very 'scattered pieces,' correct, & reprint them there. If I should compile the book, I should be disposed at present to send it to Mr Chapman (for an English sale,) in acknowledgment of his friendly & prior proposals, — whilst your friends W. & P. have, I am aware, an English house. For your third proposition, that respects an edition of Mr Landor's works,[76] I think I might make the selection, if I knew how many numbers you wished it to consist of. Would you reprint Pericles & Aspasia (the best fitted on many accounts for a cabinet book)? The whole Pentameron ought to be printed; the whole Pentalogia omitted. I should omit the whole "Examination of Shakspere": And the whole question will be what proportion will you publish of the 5 English octavos of "Imaginary Conversations." *For* of his volume of poems, I suppose there are & can be no readers here. I could easily select one volume, and, if I should look at the work, I suppose I should say, two volumes, of your size, from the "Imag. Conversations." — And I suppose I might adapt & enlarge a little that critique in the Dial [77] to which you refer. If you will give me your opinion on this matter, I will decide at once whether I will undertake it.[78]

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

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literary adviser to Wiley & Putnam, had written on their behalf, Aug. 13, 1845 (copy in his MS letter-book, New York Public Library), asking Emerson to contribute to *Wiley and Putnam's Library of Choice Reading*. Most desirable, he said, would be an entirely new book "written in a popular manner for the best class of readers *virginibus puerisque*." If not this, then a collection from the reviews with perhaps a lecture or two would do. Or, as a third possibility, the essay on Landor could be lifted from *The Dial* and used as a preface to a selection from that author's writings.

75. *Cf.* May 30, 1845.

76. Emerson's admiration for Landor's writings is clear from various earlier letters.

77. See a note on Sept. 8, 1841.

78. *Cf.* Sept. 5, 1845, to Duyckinck.

## To Nathaniel W. Coffin, Concord, August 26, 1845 [79]

Concord, 26 August, 1845.

N. W. Coffin, Esq.

Dear Sir,

I hardly know what to say to your proposition respecting my lectures. I intend to read some lectures in town if I can get ready in time. For some reasons — which it would take long to tell, — it seems better for my lectures to be read independently of any society: but there are other accounts on which I should value the alliance of the Lyceum and the prospect of relief from the preliminary arrangements, the finance department, &c. is very attractive to me. My own plan was of a course of six or at most eight lectures. I shall therefore willingly hear anything which the Lyceum has to say on the matter.[80]

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

## To James Elliot Cabot, Concord, September 1, 1845 [81]

Concord, 1 September, 1845

J. Elliot Cabot

My dear Sir,

I am a bad borrower of books, for I am grown self-indulgent and considerate of times & moods to a degree beyond all apology. And all the things you have sent me require a reader serene, vacant, & at the top of his condition. This admirable Schelling, which I have never fairly engaged with until the last week, demands the "lamp" & the "lonely tower" and a lustrum of silence. I delight in his steady inevitable eye, and the breadth of his march including & disposing of so many objects of mark. I write this to say that you must set your mind at rest: I cannot for the present let any Miss Peabody or other person have the book, which has, I am sure, come just to the right reader for the present. Whenever you choose to print it, which is the

79. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library. I have made a MS copy, which is in CUL. *Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1845, lists "Nath'l" W. Coffin as a dealer in Irish linen. He appears as corresponding secretary of the Boston Lyceum in the *Daily Evening Transcript* of Oct. 16, 1845.

80. Emerson wrote his decision on Sept. 5 following.

81. MS owned by Professor Philip Cabot; ph. in CUL. For the MSS and books mentioned here, see Aug. 3, 1845. For the Schelling, *cf.* also Sept. 7, 1846.

best thing to do with it, or, as soon as my good will to philosophic readers overpowers my desire to understand & to appropriate it, I shall send it back. As little can I part with the Bhagvat Geeta. I have tried once or twice to send it home, but each time decided to strain a little your courteous professions that you could supply your occasional use of the book from the Library: And the Purana I have sent, for the present, to a hungry soul. Only the "Essay on Romanism" I will release, and that, not because I have done with it, or dare profess that I have sounded its depths, (for this subtlety & strictness of dialectic in which you & your tutors Spinoza & Schelling delight, is at first as difficult & repulsive to me as logarithms,) but because respect to a private manuscript which your other friends will demand to see, enjoins some discretion. I have read it once again carefully, and found so much that was excellent, that I drew the best inferences in regard to what I have not duly weighed.

You sent me Mr Tuckerman's book. I lent it for a day to Miss Peabody, who was in Concord, & she lost it, – she thinks, between Mr Hawthorne's house & mine. I was to have taken it the next day with me on my journey to Connecticutt. If Mr Tuckerman will not put his book into the shops, will you not prevail with him to give you another for me: tell him I also am a maker of books, & will testify my sense of his goodness by sending him the first new specimen I have of my own manufacture. I have not quite decided not to print my discourse to the young men at Middlebury & at Middletown – (Against my intention the last proved only an enlargement of the first.) You shall have either the print or the Manuscript. I send with much pleasure a copy of the old pamphlet you inquire for.

R. W. Emerson

## To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, September 1, 1845 [82]

Concord, 1 September, 1845

Dear Charles,

I see the "Taylor's Timaeus" [83] this morning, which I was to have sent you and it occurs with force that I ought either to send you the book or the reason why not. It is this, that I have entertained the project all summer, if no longer, of making a study for a Lecture of

82. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL. The address is to Newcomb at Brook Farm.

83. *Cf.* Mar. 17, 1828.

some dialogues of Plato, meaning if I dare some day or deep midnight to draw a profile of the Great Shade himself;[84] and, as at some hours lately; this study seemed more possible, I have not been willing to diminish my apparatus by so much as a single book. Neither have I & my household been sufficiently serene & fortunate for any number of days together, since I saw you, to incline me to claim your visit. Yet I have hoped that you would have been yourself prompted to have made a sally into these fields which remember & love you; and if I hesitate to invite you, I shall still hope that you will come.

Yours affectionately,

R. W. Emerson

I have still two admirable books.

## To Nathaniel W. Coffin, Concord, September 5, 1845[85]

Concord, 5 Sept. 1845

N. W. Coffin, Esq. Sec.ʸ Boston Lyceum.

Dear Sir,

I accept the proposition of the Lyceum as made to me on their part by Mr Lincoln I propose now to read a course of six lectures, and if I should find it necessary to extend the course to seven, the Lyceum must indulge me. For the subjects, I cannot quite yet announce them in detail, but they will have, as I told Mr Lincoln, a biographical basis. As soon as you are quite ready to advertise, I will give you the most particular account of them I can.

Yours respectfully,

R. W. Emerson.

I add that I should prefer not to begin before the middle or end of November: If therefore Mr Hudson & Dr Howe are ready sooner, you shall let me follow them.

84. For the lecture Emerson was planning, *cf.* Oct. 2, 1845.

85. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is described correctly in Emerson's endorsement, " Copy of letter to N W Coffin," and is entirely in Emerson's hand. The letter of Aug. 26, 1845, had left the matter of the course unsettled. F. W. Lincoln, Jr., " Recording Secretary," was one of several who signed an announcement listing Henry Norman Hudson and Samuel G. Howe, with Edgar Allan Poe and others, as the attractions at the Boston Lyceum during the coming season (*Daily Evening Transcript*, Oct. 16, 1845).

## To Evert Augustus Duyckinck, Concord, September 5, 1845[86]

Concord, 5 September, 1845.

Evert A. Duyckinck, Esq

Dear Sir,

I have been looking a little at Mr Landor's writings, and, (I am a little sorry to say it so tardily) I decide not to undertake the selection you offer me. I fancied when I received your first letter, that I might with much ease & speed choose what was best; but, on looking into the books, I see that I could not make my selection without careful reading and many deliberations. I discover many blemishes, and bad ones, in pieces which I remembered only with pleasure. — And I have not at present any time to spare for this, as I have undertaken to read a new course of lectures in Boston early in the season; and I have, besides, a book before me which I have promised to many friends. This last is a volume of poems, many of which have already been printed, & many have not, — and which must be my excuse to you at present for not entering more readily into your friendly propositions for me. As soon as I have got my MSS ready & printed, which I hope to do by New Year's day, I shall be much freer for such work as you offer me. I have sometimes thought of publishing this book in N. Y., in the hope of that larger publication which your booksellers can give; but again have been advised that for a book of poems, Boston was the better shop. If you think fit, you shall inform Messrs Wiley & Putnam of this book that shall be.

As to Landor, once more, if it is desired, I will give your editor leave to print from the Dial the whole or any part of the Critique on Landor, tho' the Introduction, and the selected sentences at the end should be omitted, I think. I should hope that the Dialogue between "Duc de

86. MS owned by the New York Public Library; ph. in CUL. The letter of Aug. 25, 1845, had asked for more information as to Wiley & Putnam's projected selections from Landor, had suggested the inclusion of several conversations and the critique from *The Dial*, and had promised a prompt decision regarding the request that Emerson be the editor. On Aug. 27 Duyckinck had replied (copy in his MS letter-book, New York Public Library), proposing that, for the present, two volumes of selections from Landor's *Imaginary Conversations* should be prepared. Two additional numbers might come later. Meanwhile he asked again for a book by Emerson himself and advised that it should be stereotyped immediately, so that it could be brought out in both America and England by December. On Sept. 20 following, Duyckinck answered the present letter, thanking Emerson for his help and stating that he would follow the suggestions given. He also urged Emerson to send his poems to Wiley & Putnam.

Richelieu, Sir Fire Coates, & Lady Glengrin," would be printed, and *both* of those respecting Wordsworth, viz: "Southey & Porson" in Vol and the same interlocutors in Blackwood (for Dec 1842) So I think the Dialogue between "Tasso & Leonora" [87] in Blackwood should appear.

Yours respectfully,

R. W. Emerson.

### To William Emerson, Concord, September 10, 1845 [88]

Concord, 10 September.

Dear William

Mr Cranch informs me that he goes tomorrow to New York with Aunt Mary (!) & Miss Peabody. Aunt Mary informed us from Malden a week or more ago, that she meditated such a Hegirah, but as she also thought of coming to Concord to board, we engaged board for her here, & I neglected to apprise you. Now I beg your special attention to the details of Aunt's conveyance & boarding, &c. if she does not go to the Island, & if she does.; for you can have no idea how utterly unskilful she will be — a mere victim to every imposture & discomfort in your city. So you must go to her immediately, no matter, O Counsellor! what you are doing, tell her you have come to fix the hour & the exact method of her going down to your house with you, do not let a single coachman or porter interfere between you & her, but pay them all yourself humour her besides to the top of her bent, & make it impossible for her to quarrel with you by dint of sweetness & silence. I am sorry she should have fancied such a hazardous trip in her old age. She is wont to come to Boston & Concord sometimes of late years. She has made a vow that she will not sleep in [89] my house, so I have only the perplexity to find her a boarding house, and I make private terms with her landladies to smooth her way. She is very restless & will not probably remain with you a week, but as you have had no experience of her eccentricity for many years, I thought I must forewarn you. You will not regret, however, a single step taken for her, when you shall have come to perceive by talking with her, how many many sad hours

87. That is, "Tasso and Cornelia," which concerns the death of Tasso's Leonora (*Blackwood's*, Jan., 1843).

88. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. For the year, *cf.* the following letter, written the same day.

89. Emerson at first wrote "come into," then substituted "sleep in." The original wording is in keeping with other records of his aunt's vow.

& days this susceptible over-excited & lonely invalid passes, both when travelling, & when at her now comfortless home. Ask her too, whether she has any money, how much, & put it into current shape for her; &, in short, take care of her as of a child. I can trust everything to your own kindness, only nothing but actual experience has made Elizabeth & myself wise in Aunt Mary. Elizabeth has virtue in the matter to which I have no approach. — We all hope to hear of Susan's return by a personal knowledge. Bid her from Mamma & Lidian & me to give us the kindness of one day on her way, and we shall love her better.

Your affectionate brother, W.

### To William Emerson, Concord, September 10, 1845[90]

Concord 10 Sept 1845

Dear William

I have written at length by Mr Cranch concerning Aunt Mary, & have only now to apprise you in case Mr Prichard[91] should arrive first, that she goes to N. Y. with Mr C. & under Miss Peabody's charge. She found Miss P. arranging a journey to N. Y. & it instantly occurred to her as desireable for herself also. You must look after her early, or she will lose herself. If Susan comes home whilst Miss P. is in N. Y. she would find her a magazine of information if she liked to send for her to pass a day. I am not quite ready to send the MSS you asked for by Mr Prichard.

Ever yours,
Waldo

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, September 15, 1845

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

### To James Elliot Cabot, Concord, September 28, 1845[92]

Concord, Sept 28.

My dear Sir,

I have been so fortunate as to procure a copy of the Bhagvat Geeta from London, so I return yours with hearty thanks.[93] Schel-

90. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.
91. The superscription shows that W. M. Prichard was the bearer.
92. MS owned by Professor Philip Cabot; ph. in CUL.
93. *Cf.* May 30, 1845.

ling continues to interest me, but I am so ill a reader of these subtle dialectics, that I let them lie a long while [94] near me, as if in hope of an atmospheric influence when the Understanding refuses his task. I am still meaning to go to the Library at Cambridge some day soon, when I hope to see you.

R. W. Emerson.

J. E. Cabot.

## To John C. Dalton, Concord, September 29, 1845 [95]

Concord, 29 Sept. 1845

Dr J. C. Dalton

My dear Sir,

I am very much gratified to be thus remembered by friends in Lowell, as your proposition implies. I am proposing to read in Boston a course of lectures on a biographical basis, which I call, " On Representative Men." They will probably consist, with a preliminary Discourse, of a lecture severally, on Plato, or the Philosopher; on Swedenborg, or the Mystic;
on Shakspeare, or the Poet
Montaigne, or the Skeptic
Napoleon, or the Man of the World
Perhaps, Goethe or the Writer.
I have promised " six or seven " to the Lyceum in Boston; which has offered me fifty dollars for each lecture. I will read the Course at Lowell, or a part of it, and your subscribers shall pay me $25. for each lecture, if they think them worth so much money. I should prefer not to begin however until my course is ended or nearly so in town, which will be,

94. *Cf.* the letters of Aug. 3 and Sept. 1, 1845, to Cabot. On Aug. 19 of the following year Emerson finally wrote that he had decided to give up the MS translation of Schelling. Apparently he had been unable to make much of it, though he advised that it be published.

95. MS owned by the Folger Shakespeare Library; ph. in CUL. For Dalton, see Dec. *c.* 20? 1825. Dalton, Lowell, Mass., Oct. 15, 1845, discussed the course proposed for Lowell. The lectures given in Boston this winter are listed in a note on Oct. 2, 1845. It is not clear exactly how many lectures Emerson read in Lowell, though seven were at first advertised. The introductory one (two different titles, " The Lives of Great Men " and " The Uses of Great Men," were mentioned) was to be read on Jan. 13. Others announced or reported were: " Plato, or the Philosopher," Jan. 20; " Shakspeare," Feb. 10; and " Uses of Great Men," Mar. 10. (*Lowell Daily Courier*, Dec. 2, 1845; and Jan. 12, 13, and 21, Feb. 11, and Mar. 10, 1846.)

I suppose, early in January. You shall write me when you have settled on anything.

On my way to Boston,
Affectionately yours,
R. W. Emerson.

I remember that I have already delivered in Lowell & to *you* my lecture on Napoleon though in an incomplete state It was the first written, though it should be last in the course. Well you shall not be compelled to hear it again. I will find another?

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, September 30, 1845

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

### To Mary Moody Emerson, Concord? September? *c.* 30? 1845

[Mentioned in Oct. 2, 1845.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, October 2, 1845[96]

Concord, 2 Oct. 1845

Dear William,

I duly received on 30 September your letter containing one seventy four dollars which demands of me a readier acknowledgment, but Edward Hoar was to go tomorrow. Mrs Brown has received her box. I am very glad that Aunt Mary passed through your house & hands[97] so quietly, for this is fulminating silver sometimes through sickness & the irritations incident to Genius. Well; she baulked me again I sent my Express messenger to her to escort her here promising in my letter[98] that she should find lodgings provided on her arrival, though Mrs Barlow could no longer receive her. She wrote back that she was disgusted at Mrs B's failure, & would go to South Reading & wait until her lodgings were ready. Meantime I had excellent ones prepared. Mary Ripley is to be married on the 16th Oct.[99] Mother & all of us are to attend. Mr Hawthorne leaves Concord today. Mr Ripley comes not until the spring. I am to read seven lectures in Boston beginning in

96. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

97. *Cf.* the letters of Sept. 10, 1845.

98. Of Sept.? *c.* 30? 1845.

99. Mary Emerson Ripley, of Waltham, was married by her father, Samuel Ripley, to the Rev. George Frederick Simmons on that day (*Boston Daily Advertiser*, Oct. 23, 1845). *Cf.* Oct. 14, 1845, to her.

the beginning of December on "Representative Men"[100] consisting with perhaps a Preliminary Discourse

on Plato or the Philosopher
Swedenborg or the Mystic
Montaigne or the Skeptic
Shakspeare or the Poet
Napoleon or the Man of the World
Goethe or the Writer

Perhaps I shall modify my list. I am to read them to the Boston Lyceum. We are all well here. Sarah Ripley is staying with us.

Thomas Carlyle writes[101] that he has finished his Letters & Speeches of Cromwell 2 big 8vo vols to be published in October in London; half of the matter his own.

Ever yours

Waldo –

## To John Greenleaf Whittier, Concord, October 9, 1845[102]

Concord, 9 October, 1845

My dear Sir,

I was at Cambridge on Tuesday at an adjourned meeting of our Anti Texas Convention[103] & was there told by some person that your letter to me a fortnight since was printed in the Emancipator with some unfriendly remarks by the Editor as to the manner in which it had been disposed of.[104] As I see almost no papers it occurred to me that it might be safest to write you as my own secretary my little report. The Convention at Concord made their first rule, "that all business should come first to the Business Committee." Mr Stetson was a

100. The *Daily Evening Transcript* announced: "The Uses of Great Men," Dec. 11, 1845; "Plato, the Philosopher," 18; "Swedenborg, or the Mystic," 25 (announced on the 24th); "Montaigne, or the Skeptic," Jan. 1; "Napoleon, or the Man of the World," 8; "Shakspeare, or the Poet," 15; "Goethe, or the Writer," 22. With the exception noted, the announcement appeared in each case on the evening of the lecture.

101. Carlyle, Aug. 29, 1845 (*C–E Corr.*).

102. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Whittier at Amesbury, Mass.

103. The *Concord Freeman*, Sept. 26, 1845, copied from a Boston paper a report of the Middlesex County convention of the opponents of the annexation of Texas, held at Concord on Sept. 22.

104. The *Emancipator*, Oct. 1, 1845, prints Whittier, Amesbury, Sept. 20, 1845, with some introductory comment.

member of that Committee and he having informed me that he had a letter from Mr C. F. Adams sent to him with a similar design as yours to me, I confided yours to him to be disposed of with that. The Convention assembled so tardily & the latest train to Boston leaves Concord so early that few hours were left for many debaters, and Mr Stetson came to me in the P. M. and said " there is no time for the letters to be read: Shall Mr Whittier's go with Mr Adams's to be printed in the Lowell Journal in the proceedings of the day? " Having previously learned that there was no longer a Boston Morning Chronicle, to which you intimated that you wished your paper sent, I assented. I had supposed of course that it was printed in the Lowell paper I do not see that paper but I hear this week it was not. I infer, for I know not of whom to inquire, that the Committee sent it as nearly according to your request as they could, to a paper of the Liberty party. — At Cambridge I arrived late, but found a handful of people, perhaps, all told, twenty. There is to be yet another meeting attempted in Old Cambridge a week from Friday,[105] I believe. — I am so seldom a mover in politics & so seldom honoured with a public letter, that I earnestly hope nothing indiscreet or unfortunate has attended my charge in this instance.

Yours, with great respect,

R. W. Emerson.

## To Evert Augustus Duyckinck, Concord, October 14, 1845[106]

Concord, 14 October, 1845

My dear Sir,

I fear you find me a very dilatory correspondent: I wish you may not think me also a very impracticable one. It seems to me you make me a very liberal offer on the part of Messrs Wiley & Putnam for my book of Poems;[107] and yet it does not in fact promise me the advantage I had expected from the book, nor an equal advantage to that I do derive from my prose books, which may be presumed to be less popular. I do not well carry figures in my head, but I believe I

105. This meeting was actually held there on Oct. 21, and was reported in *The Liberator*, Oct. 31, 1845.

106. MS owned by the New York Public Library; ph. in CUL. The address is to Duyckinck at New York.

107. In a letter endorsed Oct., 1845, Duyckinck wrote that Wiley & Putnam wished to publish the poems in an American library series to sell at thirty-one cents retail and to yield a royalty of six cents, the publishers retaining their privilege for five years.

have received or am to receive between 5 & 600 dollars for each edition of my "Essays," the first series, counting 1500 (all sold), the second 2000 copies. I print them at my own risk, & Munroe & Co have 30 per cent as their commission. This, by means of a little better style of book, and its higher price. If I print my Poems in Boston, I suppose the book will cost 75 cents; and if we sell 2000 copies, I should receive more money than by the sale of 2500 on the scale you propose.

Our people too say that a large proportion of purchasers prefer in works of this kind a costlier style of book. Perhaps then it would be better for author & readers to print a costlier edition first, & a cheaper afterwards. I think Munroe told me this. But to say what I ought to have said in the beginning of the sheet, it has been for a few days growing almost certain that I must postpone my printing a little, & lose the advantage of the New Year. My engagements to the Lyceum will not now permit the attention to the Poems which they seem to require. I shall not take any new step in regard to their publication without communicating further with you. J. M. & Co have announced them as *in press* without any authority. As for the "Lectures" which made the subject of a note also from you,[108] I will see what they grow to, and can better answer you after some weeks.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

## To Mary Emerson Ripley, Concord, October 14, 1845[109]

Concord 14 Oct. 1845.

My dear Mary

With my congratulation on the approach of the auspi-

108. Duyckinck, Oct. 2, 1845 (copy in his MS letter-book, New York Public Library), said Wiley was prompted by the announcement of Emerson's course on "Representative Men" to ask that these lectures be offered to his house when they were ready to publish. Duyckinck himself was enthusiastic about this suggestion — "my desire for a genuine book for the series of American books he has placed under my charge is like the thirst of the parched traveller in the wilderness." He was looking to Hawthorne for a volume "and not long since suggested to him besides his Collections of Tales — a History of New England Witchcraft." He hoped there was no doubt about Messrs. W. & P. getting Emerson's poems — "They have only on hand one volume of American poems, a small collection by Mr Poe including some remarkable juvenile poems." Finally he wanted to know whether Emerson was willing to make a selection of the more popular papers in *The Dial* for a single volume.

109. MS owned by Mr. Alwin J. Scheuer; ph. in CUL. The address is to Mary E. Ripley at Waltham.

cious morrow [110] will you not allow me to send you an offering to bring a little salt & oil to your new housekeeping. I make no apology for choosing this form rather than some tasteful gift, for so I only begin to send home an old deposit which your father lodged in my hands in my boyhood, I cannot tell how many times. With the best love from my Mother & my Wife,

Your affectionate cousin,
Waldo E.

## To Abraham Hart, Concord, October 15, 1845 [111]

A. Hart, Esq

Dear Sir,

I have received through the hands of my friend Mr Furness, the water colour portrait of Mr Carlyle, which Mr Furness informs me you have requested him to present to me.[112] I am very heartily obliged to you, Sir, for this gift. The drawing is very pleasing and as far as I know is a correct copy of the original picture which whatever droll things Mr Carlyle sometimes chooses to say of it, he esteems an excellent likeness. I am having it framed, & shall cherish it with care. I am aware of the manner in which it was procured by the generous zeal of your friend the late Mr Carey, — with whose untimely departure there is at least this happiness joined, that every thing liberal & beautiful in the arts, here in America, will be connected with his memory.[113]

With great respect,
Your obliged servant,
R. Waldo Emerson.

Concord, 15 October, 1845.

## To William Henry Furness, Concord, October 15, 1845

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship,* pp. 44–45.]

110. See a note on Oct. 2, 1845.

111. MS owned by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; ph. in CUL.

112. See Furness, Oct. 8, 1845 (*Records,* p. 42), and the letter of June 29, 1845, to Carlyle.

113. *Cf.* letters of Jan. 6, 1843.

### To Harrison Gray Otis Blake, Concord, October 19, 1845

[MS listed in C. F. Libbie & Co., Apr. 26 and 27, 1904; regarding a lecture to be given at Worcester. *Cf.* Dec. 1, 1845.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, October 29, 1845[114]

Concord, Oct 29, 1845

Dear William

I received last night your parcel of letters, &c. & learned for the first time the death of Mr Haven.[115] Elizabeth, it seems, already knew it, but had not come to tell us, thinking we should learn it by the newspaper. You must assure Susan of the sympathy of us all. As far as I knew Mr Haven, or of him, & according to the consenting voice of all who speak of him, what you say in your letter is just & true. Never was an old man so sweet & kind I should think, & I shall not wonder that he was very dear to his family & friends. — His sons & daughters have their homes, but Mother sighs over your account of Mrs Haven. — Will Susan go to her? You do not say. Susan's letter to mother though without date was written earlier, & gives a sunny picture of Aunt Mary's visit,[116] — to my relief. For I feared that the odd humours & caprices which often seem to ride & drive her, when away from home, might somehow spoil her journey, & annoy both herself & you. She is here at Mr Goodnow's for the last fortnight but will soon take her departure for S. Reading, as she designs at present.

[I]As for the poems about which you ask once more,[I] I carried on an active correspondence with Mr Duyckinck, (acting for Wiley & Putnam) for some weeks respecting them: At last [II]a critical friend of mine here, discovered so many corrigible & repairable places in them, requiring both leisure & the most favorable poetic mood, that[II] I wrote Mr D.,[117] that, as the Lectures could not stop, the poems must; and [III]I have laid them aside for two months.[III] I shall forward your gift to Bulkeley, from whom we have none but good news. With my respectful love to Susan, and love to her from Mother & Lidian, Your brother

Waldo.

114. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–III are in Cabot, II, 481.

115. The *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Nov. 1, 1845, reported the death of John Haven, at Portsmouth, N. H., on Oct. 23.

116. *Cf.* Oct. 2, 1845.

117. On Oct. 14, 1845.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, October 30, 1845 [118]

Concord, 30 October, 1845.

My dear friend,

In a multitude of petty matters and just escaped from a company of friends, I have only leisure to say that I have received a letter from Mr A. Hart of Philadelphia, Mr Edward L. Carey's surviving partner, requesting me to inform you, that your draft on Messrs Brown Shipley & Co, Liverpool, at four months sight, for Fifty Pounds Sterling,[119] will be duly honoured. Will you, on obtaining the "acceptance" of the draft from these parties, write immediately to A. Hart, Esq. of Carey & Hart 126 Chesnut Street, Philadelphia, informing him of the receipt in so far. William H. Furness's good offices have not failed us in any step of this affair. You have been very heedless of us & of your own interest in not sending us a complete copy of the "Book" in advance of the publication.[120] As it is, I look for it with great expectation.

Ever yours
R. W. Emerson.

## To Herman E. Davidson, Concord? October, 1845

[Described in Davidson, Gloucester, Mass., Feb. 2, 1846, as written in October and as declining an invitation to lecture at Gloucester. For Davidson, *cf.* Feb. 5, 1846.]

## To ————————, Concord, November 1, 1845 [121]

Concord, 1 Nov. 1845

My dear Sir,

It seems rather a costly luxury, to be sure, to keep beautiful poems & excellent translations of such lying in one's drawer from

118. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Carlyle in London, but the letter was forwarded in care of the Honourable W. B. Baring, Bay House, Alverstoke, Hants.

119. *Cf.* Sept. 15, 1845.

120. See letters of Dec. 14 ff., 1845.

121. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is, perhaps, a copy, but it is complete except for a superscription and is entirely in Emerson's own hand. Emerson usually endorsed his copies and rough drafts with the names of his correspondents; and a leaf containing this information, or possibly a superscription, may have been torn away. A typescript copy of the same letter made from a copy in the Manchester

year to year, by way of Lares or Daemons of benignant influence; but your good & pleasant Manuscript has so lain, and I have held myself excused from all sin in the matter by reason of the true reverence I had for it. But now I have obeyed your command & sent it to Wiley & Putnam who shall give it wings, such as they can, and I trust it will not find the atmosphere of New England too heavy to fly wide in. On some friendly summer day I hope you will make your purpose good to stop at my door in your northern wanderings.

Yours with great regard,
R. W. Emerson

To William Emerson, Concord, November 17, 1845

[WmE List.]

To William J. Rotch, Concord, November 17, 1845

[Printed in *The Liberator,* Boston, Jan. 16, 1846, p. 10. Emerson refuses to lecture at New Bedford because, as he has been informed, the Lyceum there has voted to exclude Negroes from "membership by purchase of a ticket in the usual manner." And he adds: "Now, as I think the Lyceum exists for popular education, as I work in it for that, and think it should bribe and importune the humblest and most ignorant to come in, and exclude nobody, or, if any body, certainly the most cultivated, — this vote quite embarrasses me, and I should not know how to speak to the company. Besides, in its direct counteraction to the obvious duty and sentiment of New England, and of all freemen in regard to the colored people, the vote appears so unkind, and so unlooked for, that I could not come with any pleasure before the Society."]

To William J. Rotch, Concord? November? *c.* 20? 1845

[The second of two letters to Rotch mentioned in Jan. 2, 1846.]

To Harrison Gray Otis Blake, Concord, December 1, 1845[122]

Concord, 1 December, 1845

H. G. O. Blake, Esq
My dear Sir,

Thanks for the good accounts you give me of the good will of the people of Worcester towards me. For times, if you

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Public Libraries and supplied through the courtesy of Mr. L. Stanley Jast is in CUL. The Manchester version is substantially the same as the text here given and likewise lacks the name of the person addressed.

122. MS owned by Mr. Thomas F. Madigan; ph. in CUL. The address is to Blake at Worcester, Mass., where he was born and where he was to spend many years as a teacher in a private school for young women (*The Massachusetts Spy,* Apr. 19, 1898).

think the lectures should be read once a week, I can come to Worcester on Friday Eve. 23d Jany, & on the following Fridays,[123] [except Friday 6th Feb.y], until the course is completed. Nor can I substitute Tuesday for that failing Friday, as I have promised my Tuesdays. Any other evening of that week I might offer.

Your obliged servant,
R. W. Emerson

To Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Concord, December 2, 1845[124]

Concord, 2 Dec. 1845

My dear Sir,

I received safely your munificent loan of the nine volumes, & have already made some progress into their contents. I shall, if you do not reclaim them, keep them for five or six weeks yet. I mean also to accept your friendly invitation to drink tea with you, if you shall chance to be at home when I am in Cambridge, but I am a restless lodger when I go abroad, & cannot stay over night.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

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As a student at the Harvard Divinity School, he had helped arrange for Emerson's famous address (*cf.* notes on July 28, 1838). Aug. 1, 1839, indicates the nature of Emerson's influence on Blake.

123. According to *The Massachusetts Spy*, Jan. 21, 1846, Emerson was to deliver his course of biographical lectures at Brinley Hall, Worcester, beginning Jan. 23. Later dates were not specified; but the subjects were to be Plato, Montaigne, Swedenborg, Shakespeare, Napoleon, and Goethe. *Cf.* also Feb. 17, 1846? The square brackets are apparently Emerson's own.

124. MS owned by the Trustees of the Longfellow House in Cambridge; ph. in CUL. The address is to Longfellow at Cambridge, and *this is in answer to his letter* of four days earlier:

" My dear Sir,

" I here send you a specimen of the books of the Shakespear Society, nine volumes in all, and the only ones of the series, which seem to contain much about the great bard and his times. When you have done with them they may be sent back to No. 4 Court. St.

" I forgot to tell you the other day, when I met you in the street, that Mr Ticknor, (the Professor not the bookseller) has a very complete Shakespear library, which he has been collecting for years past. There you would find everything you want, or at all events everything that is now to be had.

" When you lecture in Cambridge it would give us great pleasure if you would take your tea and pass the night at our house.

" Very truly yours
" Henry W Longfellow

" Cambridge Nov. 28."

Emerson was apparently at work on his lecture for Jan. 15 (*cf.* a note on Oct. 2, 1845).

### To Horace Greeley, Concord? December *c.* 5, 1845

[Mentioned in Dec. 14, 1845. *Cf.* also the note on Dec. *c.* 5, 1845, to Wiley & Putnam.]

### To Wiley and Putnam, Concord? December *c.* 5, 1845

[Mentioned in Dec. 14, 1845. Greeley, New York, Dec. 10, 1845, says he took Emerson's letter to Wiley & Putnam yesterday but they declined to deliver Carlyle's book. Wiley & Putnam, New York, Dec. 12, 1845, tells of their receiving Emerson's letter sent through Greeley and another letter from Emerson dated Dec. 10.]

### To Nathaniel W. Coffin, Concord, December 9, 1845?[125]

N. W. Coffin, Esq.

Dear Sir,

Will you not send me by the bearer a couple of the ordinary printed tickets to the Lyceum. I have not at all exhausted the supply of passes you gave me, but I wish to invite one or two persons, to whom, for form's sake, I should like to send the usual card.

Yours respectfully,

Concord R. W. Emerson.

9 Dec.

### To James Munroe and Company, Concord? December *c.* 9? 1845

[Described in James Munroe & Co., Boston, Dec. *c.* 10? 1845, as a "Memo" asking whether a parcel had been received by the company for Emerson.]

### To Abel Adams, Concord, December 10, 1845[126]

Concord, 10 Dec. 1845

My dear Sir

I received your kind note, & its enclosure, the other day, describing so good an issue of the sale, & had reason as ever to thank

125. MS owned by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; ph. in CUL. Comparison with the letters of Aug. 26 and Sept. 5, 1845, both to Coffin about the lecture course of the following winter, makes the year 1845 seem probable, though by no means certain. That Emerson gave away some tickets at this time is clear from Warren Burton, Dec. 20, 1845, thanking him for a ticket to his whole course of lectures, and from Dec. 10, 1845, to Adams.

126. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Abel Adams, 2 Winthrop Place.

you. I write now to say to Mrs Adams, that, in direct contradiction to the remonstrances of my Wife, that I told her of, I mean to ask for a dinner & a bed at your house on Thursday,[127] & not only so, but to bring my Wife with me.

I send one of the cards which the Lyceum President sends me, & I hope to persuade the ladies to go at least one night to lecture, that I may spend my pocketfull of passes.

Ever yours affectionately
R W Emerson.

## To Wiley and Putnam, Concord? December 10, 1845

[See the note on Dec. *c.* 5, 1845, to Wiley & Putnam, and *cf.* Dec. 14 following.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, December 14, 1845[128]

Messrs Emerson & Prichard,
or
W. Emerson, Esq
Dear William,

At the request of J Munroe, & Co. in Boston, I have repeatedly begged Mr Carlyle[129] to send out to me a Manuscript copy of his new book on Cromwell, when it shd. be complete, that we might print it here, for his benefit, without competition. In the hurry of rushing to a conclusion, when his work was done, he omitted to do this, but took pains that the first *printed* copy shd. . come out to me, and, as he tho't, a month before any other copy cd. reach America. By the last steamer, the Cambria, I received the enclosed letter[130] from him, informing me that he had sent this copy inscribed with my address, through the hands of Wiley & Putnam, by the last steamer before, viz. that which left Liverpool on 4th November.[131] On receiving this letter,

127. Emerson read his introductory lecture on Thursday, Dec. 11 (*cf.* a note on Oct. 2, 1845).

128. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Emerson & Prichard. Later letters show that Emerson's misunderstanding, which was due primarily to Carlyle's carelessness, was gradually cleared up and Wiley & Putnam's claims were substantiated. See especially Jan. 29, 1846.

129. *Cf.* the letters of Sept. 30 and Oct. 30, 1845.

130. Carlyle, Nov. 11, 1845 (*C–E Corr.*). The "Cambria" left Liverpool on Nov. 19 and reached Boston on the evening of Dec. 4 (*The Evening Post,* New York, Dec. 6, 1845).

131. The "Britannia" had sailed from Liverpool on Nov. 4 and arrived at Boston Nov. 20 (*Boston Daily Advertiser,* Nov. 21, 1845).

I wrote at once to Wiley & Putnam,[132] to demand my parcel, which they had never sent; &, considering how much time was already lost, I enclosed the letter to Horace Greeley, & wrote to him [133] to demand the parcel, & to print the book himself, & give my friend Carlyle the best terms he could. [He had previously offered to do this,[134] but if there had been leisure, I preferred to respect the claims of Munroe.][135] — Meantime Munroe sent me the enclosed letter from Wiley & Putnam to J. M. & Co saying, that they had bought the book in London, & were printing it.[136] Without waiting for Greeleys answer, I wrote to Wiley & P.[137] to charge them to stop all proceedings of publication; for the book could not be honestly bought by them, but they had been deceived by their agent, who had either stolen my copy, or, fraudulently procured another. At all events, give me mine. I have not yet received any reply. Meantime, I have now Greeley's reply,[138] also inclosed, " that W & P. decline delivering my copy," &c, &c, as you will read. I suppose, because they have it, — my identical copy, — to print from. I wish that copy demanded & taken from them, especially if they have not, as I will hope, quite finished the printing. By their letter to Munroe, it appears, one or two volumes of the four are done.

I wish you & Mr Prichard would do the best thing for me you can in these circumstances. I wish that no business person should decline delivering to me a sealed parcel inscribed with my address without good reason given to me. [Possibly good reason is given in a letter [139] which there has not, on account of Sunday, been quite time for me to receive][140] I wish also to have every right to demand of them a pecuniary compensation to my friend for this robbery. I wish you therefore, if you see fit, to commence usual proceedings against these men. You will see

132. Dec. *c.* 5, 1845, to Wiley & Putnam.

133. Dec. *c.* 5, 1845, to Greeley.

134. In his letter of Oct. 14, 1845.

135. The square brackets are apparently Emerson's.

136. Wiley & Putnam printed in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Dec. 12, 1845, an announcement of their intention to publish Cromwell's letters and speeches in a few days. During the latter half of the month advertisements of both English and American editions appeared in the Boston papers.

137. Probably the letter of Dec. 10, 1845, to Wiley & Putnam.

138. Greeley, Dec. 10, 1845.

139. Wiley & Putnam wrote, Dec. 12, 1845, acknowledging Emerson's letter of Dec. 10 and stating that they had already written, also on the 10th, and that there could have been nothing unfair about their handling of Carlyle's book. If there were any blame, it must rest on Carlyle's publishers, Chapman & Hall.

140. Again the brackets are apparently Emerson's.

that Mr Greeley is acquainted with their position; if you wish first to confer with him. I add, that they must, I am sure, be reluctant to commit an outrage on me, for they have all summer been soliciting me to enter into some terms with them for one or another book, and I have only adjourned these treaties till my lectures are ended.

Yours affectionately,
R. Waldo Emerson.

Concord, 14 Dec. 1845.

Carlyle is in his business with booksellers quite too exact & peremptory a person to have given the remotest assent to their pretended arrangement.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, December 15, 1845[141]

Concord, 15 Dec. 1845.

My dear Carlyle,

I have just received this evening, half an hour ago, your new book; a beautiful book to the eye and, I am well assured, satisfying & rejoicing.

I wish it found me in better humour But observe my date. I first heard of this parcel by your letter of 11 Nov. which came by the Cambria, a week or more ago, and announced that the book had come by the steamer leaving Liverpool 4 Nov.r thro' the hands of Wiley & Putnam. I wrote instantly to these men at New York, and enclosed my letter to Horace Greeley there, editor of the N. Y. Tribune, the great Whig paper, telling him the facts & bidding him receive the book of W. & P. & print it himself, & give you the best share of profit he could. This, because there was no time for the slower presses of Munroe, — the book being in N. Y. & the next steamer to be looked for so soon. Greeley went to W. & P., & wrote me that " they declined delivering the book as they were reprinting it, having bought it in London of Chapman & Hall, & would deliver my copy as soon as they could safely do so." [142] This was cool enough, I thought; & I wrote immediately to my brother William in N. Y., a lawyer, to go & demand my copy, & take such steps as to make his demand effectual. Now, before I have yet heard from him, they have got far enough on with their printing,

141. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The story of the difficulties over Carlyle's edition of Cromwell is told in Dec. 14, 1845, where the correspondence mentioned here is also described.

142. Paraphrased from Greeley, Dec. 10, 1845.

it seems, to render up my book; & it comes with the civilest letter, saying, that not possibly can any blame attach to Mr Putnam, their agent in London, but if any wrong has been done to Mr Carlyle, the blame must attach to Chapman & Hall, his publishers, by whom this course of their printing the book, [& withholding mine] [143] was authorized. Meantime they have got a double edition forward in N. Y. one cheap 12 mo [144] the other 8vo & dearer; [145] and, of course, will possess the American market. I am not in possession of their entire statement, for they refer to a letter which they have written to me, but which I have not received. — I shall bethink myself how to prevent these men in future from withholding parcels addressed to my name; And I beg you will not again employ them as carriers. Little & Brown in Boston, & also J. Munroe, & Co, but the former — best, are in correspondence with John Chapman in Newgate Street. — I dare not tell you what is my topic for this week's lecture on Thursday night.[146] The housemates are already deep in Cromwell, but I — Farewell. Affectionately

R W Emerson

Not to disturb the sweet tone of this letter with any irrelevant strain I will ask if you received a letter [147] saying that Mr Hart of Carey & Hart would honour your draft on certain bankers in Liverpool named?

## To William Emerson, Concord, December 16, 1845 [148]

Messrs Emerson & Prichard.
or W. E.

Concord, 16 Dec. 1845

Dear William,

Last evening I received from Wiley & Putnam my book, "Cromwell's Letters, &c" safe & sound with an inscription from T. Carlyle on the blank leaf. — Wiley & Putnam inclosed in the brown paper wrapper a copy of their new two vols. & a letter. That is to say, the original envelope has either disappeared or at all events been

143. Apparently Emerson's own.

144. Advertised in the *New-York Daily Tribune,* Dec. 16, 1845, as Nos. 39 and 40 of *Wiley and Putnam's Library of Choice Reading,* at fifty cents each, published on that day.

145. *Oliver Cromwell's Letters and Speeches: with Elucidations by Thomas Carlyle,* 2 vols., New York, Wiley & Putnam, 1845.

146. Plato (see a note on Oct. 2, 1845).

147. Oct. 30, 1845.

148. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Emerson & Prichard. *Cf.* Dec. 14, 1845, for the difficulty about the publication of Carlyle's book.

broken open. The letter of W. & P. alludes to a letter already written by them explaining the transaction, which letter I have never received. As this new letter is addressed to Concord *N. H.,* it is likely the other has gone thither.

It is too late then to demand of them my book, and by the appearance of the book, which is new & uncut, they have printed from another copy.

There remains the offence which they have committed in retaining my parcel for three weeks, & refusing to give it up when at last it was demanded.

On the day when it was received by them, it was worth a thousand or fifteen hundred dollars. By keeping it for these weeks, its value has come down to the mere price of the volumes. It seems to me that a just judge should sentence them to pay my friend through me this difference of value. Is it not so?

I wish them to understand that it is not a light offence; & that I know it to be plunder; and if you think that the laws will not help me to remunerate Carlyle, and to keep W. & P. hereafter from stealing from me what is confided to them, I shall think it necessary to bethink me how I can best make due proclamation of the men, & warn all persons in England & America against trusting parcels or commissions to such carriers as these.

I think it not right to let them go unchecked, and if you see that any good may come by prosecuting them, you must do so. It is true, I have not their letter but what can that signify?

Ever yours,
R. W. Emerson

## To Elizabeth Hoar, Concord, December 18, 1845? [149]

Concord 18 Dec

Dear Elizabeth,

Pray use this card instead of the other. I believe *that* only admits to one Evening.

Your brother
Waldo —

149. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Elizabeth Hoar "at house of Robt B. Storer, Esq. West Cedar St.," where, according to the Boston directories, Storer lived from 1837 to 1846. I have been unable to determine a more definite date from the evidence of the stationers' stamp on the paper Emerson used —

## To William Emerson, Boston, December 19, 1845 [150]

Boston 19 Dec 1845

Dear William

I received yesterday morn your letter [151] which certainly answers some questions, mainly this, that W & P did not open my parcel: [though when the like parcels have come to me through Boston booksellers, they are not opened at the Custom-House,][152] Yet the main offence you do not seem to consider, this withholding a private parcel addressed to me, under the pretence that somebody in England had authorized them to do so. Nobody in England or in America can authorize them to detain any man's parcel, except the man himself. The Government may assume to do this perhaps, but no private person.

I have not received that letter which they told you they had written to me, of explanation. Perhaps you had better say this to them as I fancy it was sent to Concord N. H. since their other letter that came with the books was so addressed.

At present, if you so think, we will let the matter sleep a little, though I am very unwilling to let my wrath cool. I shall hear again from Carlyle on the matter soon.

Yours affectionately
Waldo

## To Sampson Reed, Concord, December 24, 1845

[MS listed and partly quoted in Goodspeed's Book Shop, Mar., 1937. Emerson incloses a lecture ticket and says he ought to speak of Swedenborg the follow-

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"LITTLE & BROWN SUPERFINE BATH" — though this may be a significant datum. During the years 1837–1846 Emerson began Boston courses in December of 1837, 1838, 1839, 1841, and 1845. But evidence in *Journals* or letters makes it seem unlikely that Elizabeth Hoar could have been at her brother-in-law's home in Boston for a considerable period in late December of any of these years except 1845. On Dec. 18, 1845, Emerson would have gone to Boston to give his second lecture and so could easily have sent this note by hand with no mention of Boston on the superscription. Other letters about this time likewise relate to tickets Emerson was giving to his friends.

150. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

151. William Emerson, Dec. 16, 1845, shows that the parcel containing the copy of Carlyle's Cromwell to be forwarded to Concord was not opened by Wiley & Putnam but by the customs officials, and that the New York edition was printed by arrangement with Carlyle's publishers.

152. Emerson's own brackets.

ing evening. He adds that it would give him much more pleasure to hear Reed on the same subject. Reed, the Swedenborgian druggist, is mentioned in various earlier letters. For the lecture referred to, see a note on Oct. 2 preceding.]

## To William Henry Furness, Concord? December 25, 1845

[Bluebook List.]

## To Richard Frederic Fuller, Concord, December 29, 1845 [153]

Concord, 29 Dec. 1845

My dear Richard,

Your persistent Zeal in behalf of lectures in Cambridgeport deserves a better return from me than this, to wit; that I cannot come on the day you name; I have still four lectures to read in town, not two only, and will not come till they are ended. I might overlooking all chances of postponement of any of these, say, I would come to C. on the next week afterwards, – say, Wednesday, 28 Jan$^{y}$. But it would be prudenter to leave me a little line – an inch or or two, – & say *then,* or the 1$^{st}$ or 2$^{d}$ Wednesday of Feb.$^{y}$. For, as I bethink me, I have given the men of Old Cambridge their choice of the two first Wednesdays of Feb.$^{y}$. Yours shall be the other, – if that is not too far off for you. Thanks & thanks.

Yours,
R. W. Emerson.

No poems for a while yet!

153. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The address is to Fuller at the Law School, Cambridge. He is listed as a member of the "Middle Class" of the Law School in the Harvard catalogue for 1845–1846, published in 1845. He had written to Emerson on Dec. 26, 1845, asking a lecture for the Cambridgeport Lyceum on Jan. 14 and suggesting "The New England Lyceum" as the topic. He also said he had heard nothing of the publication of Emerson's poems.

# 1846

## To Daniel Ricketson, Concord, January 2, 1846[1]

Concord, 2 Jan. 1845 –

Daniel Ricketson, Esq.

Dear Sir,

My absence from home for a couple of days must excuse my delay in replying to your kind note. If the committee of the Lyceum

1. MS owned by Mr. Thomas F. Madigan; ph. in CUL. Evidence cited below shows that the correct year is 1846. Emerson writes in reply to the following letter from Ricketson:

"New Bedford Dec 29. 1845.

"My dear Sir,

"I write in behalf of myself and a number of friends of the coloured people to request your permission to publish your letter to the Committee of the New Bedford Lyceum, declining to lecture for said institution (on account of the rejection of persons of colour as members) or to furnish a copy of the same for publication.

"Allow me to assure you that you have our deepest respect for the honourable course you have taken in this matter, and that we deem your letter too valuable to the cause of human rights not to be made public.

"There is a decided willingness on the part of Messrs Rotch and Greene of the Committee with whom I have consulted, to deliver up your letter for publication, providing your consent be obtained.

"Perhaps I should state that your letter together with one received from Charles Sumner Esq were read at a meeting of the members of this Lyceum; but not to my knowledge at any meeting for lectures, although a request for this to be done was made at the said meeting of members, which being small, seemed to render a more public use of the letters desirable.

"Already has the high minded course that you and Mr Sumner have taken begun to shew its good effects. – The opponents of justice begin to see that they have not acted altogether with the best wisdom And it is already openly expressed by those who are not wholly with us, that it will result in the prostration of the New Bedford Lyceum. 'Fiat justicia ruat coelum.'

"For an account of the transactions of the above mentioned meeting see Liberator Dec. 18 –

"Wishing you every success and happiness in your philanthropic endeavours, I subscribe myself

"Rev Ralph W. Emerson.

"Yours very truly and respectfully,
Daniel Ricketson."

to whom my letter [2] was addressed, give their consent, I have no objection to your making any use of it. I think I wrote two letters to Mr Rotch, one assigning my reason for not wishing to come to the Lyceum, on learning the rumour of their recent action; and another,[3] simply reaffirming that decision, after receiving Mr Rotch's reply.[4] The former of these two letters can alone have any importance to the friends of the Lyceum.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

### To Benjamin J. Bill, Concord? January? *c.* 2? 1846?

[Bill, Saxonville, Mass., Jan. 21, 1846, acknowledges a letter received the day after he read a report of Emerson's fourth lecture before the Boston Lyceum. The lecture alluded to was delivered on Jan. 1, 1846. Apparently Emerson offered to come to Saxonville any time after three weeks from the date of his letter, and Bill now proposes Feb. 12. Probably Emerson wrote a reply to this suggestion.]

### To James Freeman Clarke, Concord, January 3, 1846? [5]

Concord 3 Jan

My dear Sir,

Thanks for the kind interest you manifest in the unseen picture of Montaigne; — but, though I should like to have read the piece to you, it is not fit for such eyes as yours at this present. So thank me for not leaving it.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

2. Nov. 17, 1845, to Rotch.

3. Nov.? *c.* 20? 1845.

4. Rotch wrote from New Bedford, Nov. 18, 1845, acknowledging Emerson's letter of the 17th. He explained that last year Negroes were allowed without discrimination, but that there were objections and this year it was ruled that they should sit in a gallery to themselves but should be admitted free. As a member of the minority faction in the lyceum, Rotch regretted this action. He was sorry to withdraw Emerson's name from the program but would do so.

5. MS owned by Mr. James F. Clarke; ph. in CUL. The year remains somewhat doubtful, but Emerson had read his "Montaigne" in Boston on Jan. 1, 1846 (*cf.* a note on Oct. 2, 1845); and in his letter of June 10, 1846, to William Emerson, he alluded to the MSS of this course as "still expecting correction & full of interlinings" and so unfit for readers. The superscription is to Clarke at Boston.

## To Wiley and Putnam, Concord, January 27, 1846[6]

Concord 27 Jan. 1846

Wiley & Putnam

Gentlemen,

I have received a letter from Mr Putnam of your house in London, explaining on his part the manner in which your early copy of Mr Carlyle's "Cromwell" was obtained & the reasons for which my copy was withheld. I have also received a letter from Mr Carlyle,[7] enclosing a note to him from Mr Chapman, his publisher, which essentially confirms Mr Putnam's statement. Mr Carlyle informs me of his remark to Mr Chapman in reference to the binding of my copy & Mr Chapman's large inference from it.

I am so little pleased with the whole turn of this affair, with my friend's inadvertence in suffering his own design & that of his friends here to be defeated, after I had promised the book to certain parties here, & then again with the right assumed to detain my copy from me when demanded, that you will not expect me to be very cordially contented now that I have your explanations. I am very happy to see that Mr Putnam has acted quite correctly in the affair according to the usages of men of business. Certainly the whole business had a very unfavorable aspect, when I first heard of your printing. As I learn however from Mr Carlyle that he has submitted to you the terms offered him by some house in New York, that you may know the extent of his *certain* loss through the fault of his agent Mr Chapman in dealing with you, & what indemnity he has a right to look for from honorable merchants, I shall confide that he will not wholly be a loser by the Americans. I have to acknowledge, now with thanks, a copy of the first volume of the work in two parts, of your edition.

Respectfully, your obed$^{t}$ servant,

R. W. Emerson.

6. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This MS, complete except for a superscription and entirely in Emerson's hand, has been folded and may have been sent in a wrapper now lost; but probably it is a copy of the letter actually sent. For the subject matter, *cf.* Dec. 14, 1845, and Jan. 29, 1846.

7. Apparently Carlyle's letter of Jan. 3, 1846, incompletely printed in *C–E Corr.*

## To William Emerson, Boston, January 29, 1846[8]

Boston Jan 29 1846

Dear William,

I ought to have apprised you before this time that the last steamer brought me explanations from Carlyle, and from his publishers, & from Mr Putnam in London, with which, I suppose, I must rest contented. Carlyle, on receiving my letter, tho't it looked like robbery, & sent the letter to Chapman & Hall that they might deny the charge. Chapman sends him back a note, which Carlyle encloses for me to read. It seems, Carlyle called one day at the shop, & wrote my name on a leaf, & requested that an early copy might be bound up for me, this leaf included, & sent by the going steamer. Chapman said to him If the book is to be reprinted in America, why bind it? it can go as well in sheets. Carlyle answered "I will not bother Mr Emerson with that: bind it." Mr Chapman immediately understands there is to be no reprinting & goes across the street & sells an early copy to Putnam for £10. sterling Putnam says "this will be of no value if you send any other copy" — "There is but one other, for Mr E: who, I understand, is not to reprint." — "Yes, but tho he do not print, he may give it away to a publisher." — "Well, then you need not *hasten* his copy, until yours is forward in press" — still not anticipating, pleads Mr Chapman penitently, any such strong measure as W & P's refusing it when demanded. Chapman however eagerly offers Carlyle the £10. received for the copy. And, for the rest, we are to put up with the disappointment, which I greatly regret for Munroe & Co. here, to whom I had promised it. Putnam however I am happy to see is quite guiltless in the matter as far as the usages of trade are considered. It seems however that another New York house Homan & Ellis had a little later made Mr Carlyle an offer for an early copy. He now transmits to Putnam their offer that P. may know what Mr C's loss is, — and may indemnify him, if he will. — Carlyle is very sorry for his inadvertence. He did not think of such use being made of it; & only meant to secure me the sole early copy without seeming to engage me to the trouble of republication. I was to do as I saw fit. I have written to Wiley & Putnam;[9] & have explained the affair to our booktraders

8. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. This letter, which, though unsigned, was mailed, contains the best statement of the clearing up of Emerson's misunderstanding about the Wiley & Putnam edition of Carlyle's papers of Cromwell. *Cf.* earlier letters, especially Dec. 14, 1845, and Jan. 27, 1846.

9. Jan. 27, 1846.

here, to whom I had recited the offensive facts. I sent also a paragraph to the Daily Advertiser, to the same purport, but it is not in print today.[10]

### To Jarvis Lewis, Concord? January? 1846?

[Lewis, Waltham, Mass., Feb. 1, 1846, mentions Emerson's "reply" to an earlier letter about a lecture at Waltham.]

### To Henry C. Whitaker, Concord? February 1, 1846

[Whitaker, Providence, Feb. 5, 1846, acknowledges a letter of the 1st and reports that arrangements have been made for Emerson's course at Providence to begin Feb. 19.]

### To Herman E. Davidson, Concord, February 5, 1846[11]

Concord, 5 Feb. 1846

Dr H. E. Davidson

Dear Sir,

I have delayed a little to answer your friendly letter,[12] thinking that I might receive replies from one or two parties with whom I have contingent engagements. At present, I think it probable that I can come to Gloucester on the day you name, Wednesday, 25th Feb.y. You shall, if you will, hold me to that, unless I send you soon reason to the contrary. Yours respectfully,

R. W. Emerson.

### To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord, February 16, 1846[13]

Concord, 16 Feby 1846

My dear Ward,

Ellery Channing has suddenly found out that he must

10. An unsigned paragraph, which Emerson may have sent in a letter now lost, appeared in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* on Jan. 31, 1846. This statement concluded thus: "We understand that the last steamer brought satisfactory explanations from Hall & Chapman, the London publishers, which, we are happy to hear, acquit Messrs. Wiley & Putnam of all irregularity in this affair."

11. MS owned by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; ph. in CUL. For Davidson, see Francis H. Brown, *The Medical Register for New England*, 1877, p. 281.

12. Davidson, Gloucester, Mass., Feb. 2, 1846, alluded to Emerson's letter of Oct., 1845, refusing an earlier request, and asked for a lecture on Feb. 25 or the Wednesday following. *The Telegraph*, Gloucester, Feb. 25, 1846, announced that Emerson would lecture on that evening before the Gloucester Lyceum.

13. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The address is to Ward at Lenox, Mass.

see Europe, that he must see it now, — nay, that it is a matter of life & death that he should set out for Havre & Italy on the first of March.[14] I played with the project when he first broached it, thinking that after a week I might never hear of it again, but hearing from his wife as well as from himself that he was a [15] serious as he is capable of being in this design I challenged him to a dinner & an evening yesterday, & talked it through with him. He thinks it indispensable that he should see buildings, & pictures, & mountains, & peasantries, part of his poetic education — never was poet who did not see them — that he has seen this country through — there is no hope for him but in the excitement of that. Art, Art alone is his object. &c, &c. He talks well enough about it and I can see well enough that it is all in his system, truly enough.

Well, how to do it? He says in reply to my suggestions about this & that method, that he knows perfectly well that no newspaper whatever will give him a penny for his " Correspondence," and that therefore he will not apply to them, that's flat. What next? He has calculated, Heaven knows how, that he can go for a year to Italy (England is not in his plan; nor Paris even, except on the way) for 250 or at most 300 dollars, including the passage money. He can go, he says, & will, in the steerage, to Havre, for 25 dollars. Well, h[e][16] has written letters to various persons, to Mr Ticknor Mr Cushing[17] & others (I know not what secrets I am blabbing but you can burn the sheet) asking aid in this design of a poet for the Muse's sake. Ticknor refused; all refused; except Mr Cushing, who will cheerfully give the hundred dollars he asked for. Caroline Sturgis is to give $75. . I am to give as much more: We want fifty dollars of you, if you can spare them, and behold his three hundred complete. It is not desireable (secret still) that he should have any more than a poor artists provision, for (his wife said this to me) for said she, if he has money, he only spends it in idlest indulgences. Write me what you think & can advise. With love & joy to you & yours, your friend

Waldo Emerson.

14. *The Evening Post,* New York, Mar. 4 and 5, 1846, lists W. E. Channing as a passenger in the packet ship " Nebraska," which cleared from New York for Marseilles on Mar. 3.

15. Obviously intended for " as."

16. Mutilated by the seal.

17. Probably George Ticknor, the author and scholar, and Caleb Cushing, the politician. Both were men of means.

### To Harrison Gray Otis Blake, Concord, February 17, 1846?[18]

Concord 17 Feb$^{y}$

My dear Sir,

I must I believe abide by the intention — expressed last week to the class of giving but one lecture this week, & that on Saturday; & take the risk of absolute oblivion falling on the company in so long a vacation as you propose. For the next week, I should prefer Saturday again Cannot our Superintendant allow our claim: If not, it shall still be well.

Ever yours[19]

The circumstance affords us an excellent chance of omitting that Epilogue if you will.

### To William Henry Furness, Concord, February 25, 1846

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship,* pp. 46–49.]

### To Wiley and Putnam, Concord? March 8, 1846

[Acknowledged in Wiley & Putnam, New York, Mar. 9, 1846. The reply explains that a proposal has been received from Carlyle through his London publishers and that some satisfactory arrangement can probably be made directly with him.]

### To William Buell Sprague, Concord? March 16, 1846

[Sprague, Albany, N. Y., Feb. 28, 1846, asked for a holograph sermon by Emerson's father. He wrote again on June 17, 1846, saying that the parcel came June 16, just three months from the date of Emerson's letter, and that he was grateful for the memorial. I am uncertain whether this is the letter described in Stan. V. Henkels, Apr. 26, 1921, as to an unnamed person and dated Concord, Mar. 16, 1846.]

### To William Emerson, Concord? March 18, 1846

[Acknowledged by William Emerson in a letter dated Staten Island, Mar. 20, 1846 (owned by Dr. Haven Emerson). He says his partner opened Emerson's letter and called immediately on Greeley.]

18. MS owned by Mr. W. T. H. Howe; ph. in CUL. The address is to Blake at Worcester, Mass. The year is pretty clearly 1846, when Emerson began his course on "Representative Men" at Worcester on Friday, Jan. 23 (see a note on Dec. 1, 1845). On Feb. 25, 1846, *The Worcester Palladium* reported the lecture of Saturday the 21st, on Goethe, and announced that the last lecture of the course would be given on the following Saturday.

19. The lack of a signature is explained by the following notice in a different hand: "Autograph, R. W. Emerson, cut out below, Dec. 12, 1894."

### To Daniel? Gould, Concord? March? *c.* 18? 1846

[J. G. Adams, Malden, Mass., postmarked Mar. 20 (1846), says he has Emerson's letter to Dr. Gould and asks whether Emerson will lecture at Malden within about three weeks. Probably Emerson replied to Adams. The only Gould of Malden listed in *The Massachusetts Register* for 1846 as a fellow of the Massachusetts Medical Society is Daniel.]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord? March? *c.* 20? 1846

[The first of the two letters acknowledged in Carlyle, Apr. 18, 1846 (*C–E Corr.*).]

### To William Emerson, Concord, March 24, 1846[20]

Concord, 24 March 1846

Dear William,

I received yesterday your pre-punctual letter containing, with the account, an order for $177.85.[21] It is certainly a rare good hap to be a creditor of yours. Well that I have not to look to that graceless Folsom for my bread.

Greeley's answer[22] had already come. I was sorry I had told you so long a tale fruitlessly, since it was no merrier one. And I suppose I must acquiesce – though, if I had not pressing tasks of my own, which I cannot quite relinquish even for this beautiful quarrel I should find much heart to carrying this through, by making even now a new edition. But there are limits even to the charms of wrath. And I do not know but I shall fling my newly arrived Carlyle sheets at the heads of Wiley & Putnam.[23]

Mother & we all are concerned to learn that Mrs Helen Haven is seriously ill. And it delays Susan's visit. Lidian, who sits by, sends her love to Susan, & begs her to bring Haven here when she comes: Ellen & Edith will make joyful room & company for him. Mother sends her love, & at all hours her wakeful sympathies. She goes to Boston with me tomorrow to see Dr Keep once more. Bulkeley is very well when lately we heard from him – I have not time a[t][24] this moment to

20. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

21. In William Emerson, Mar. 20, 1846 (owned by Dr. Haven Emerson).

22. Horace Greeley had written on Mar. 17, 1846, about Wiley & Putnam's edition of Cromwell. Greeley's letter and its inclosure show that the misunderstanding was due to Carlyle's carelessness. *Cf.* Jan. 29, 1846.

23. *Cf.* Apr. 9, 1846.

24. Mutilated by the seal.

collect his recent Account. — The lectures are all ended,[25] the last goose has flown over, the spring has really come.

Ever yours,
Waldo —

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord? March? *c.* 30? 1846

[The second of two letters acknowledged in Carlyle, Apr. 18, 1846 (in *C–E Corr.*).]

## To Wiley and Putnam, Concord, April 9, 1846[26]

Concord, 8 April, 1846 —

Messrs Wiley & Putnam.

Gentlemen,

I shall be quite contented if you can republish with an advantage to Mr Carlyle in a good & correct form his French Revolution of which I published by Little & Brown but a single edition.[27] He has since corrected the book, & sent over here 500 copies of the Second Edition with Little & Brown's name on the title page.[28] I do not know whether the cheap New York edition published afterwards contained the corrections or not.

Carey & Hart of Phila: made me a proposition when Munroe & Co's Edition of the Miscellanies was almost exhausted (at least the complete sets, of which 13 only remained,) to give Mr Carlyle £50 sterling for the right to reprint the Miscellanies as a part of their Series of Foreign Essays. I accepted the proposition, and they paid that sum to Mr C. soon after Mr Carey's decease.[29] They declined purchasing the 1 & 2

25. After his Boston course and some lectures out of town, it was announced that Emerson would repeat his "Napoleon" on Mar. 4 in the Mercantile Library Association's series in Boston (*Daily Evening Transcript*, Mar. 4, 1846).

26. MS draft owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This is in Emerson's hand and bears his endorsement: "Letter to Wiley & Putnam Apr 1846." The text of the letter presumably actually sent under date of Apr. 9 is printed in George Haven Putnam, *George Palmer Putnam*, 1912, pp. 102–103. The differences between that text and the present one are too great to be indicated here. For Emerson's decision to turn to Wiley & Putnam after his misunderstanding with them had been cleared up, *cf.* Mar. 24, 1846.

27. *Cf.* Oct. 24, 1837, to Margaret Fuller. *The French Revolution* duly appeared in *Wiley and Putnam's Library of Choice Reading*, New York, 1846.

28. See the letters of Oct. 16, and Nov. 8, 1839.

29. See Oct. 30, 1845. Carey & Hart published *Critical and Miscellaneous Essays* in *The Modern British Essayists* series.

vols of which we have in sheets some hundreds, I believe. and I am to dispose of them

The Sartor Resartus I have never made any claim upon I printed it first by Munroe [30] but at his own risk & his profit nor do I know what right he claims in it

## To Charles Lane, Concord? April 10, 1846

[Acknowledged in Lane, Boonton, N. J., Apr. 27, 1846. Lane replies that he has asked his son to search for a valuable missing number of *The Dial* and incloses a list of his books now in Emerson's possession that he wishes shipped to him. Probably Emerson sent another letter to Lane with the books. At any rate, Lane, Boonton, May 20, 1846, not only acknowledges the "box of literary treasure" but seems to reply to remarks Emerson has made.]

## To E. C. Goodwin, Concord, April 16, 1846 [31]

Concord, 16 April, 1846.

Mrs E. C. Goodwin.

Madam,

My wife begs me to reply to your note received last evening stating the terms & conditions, on either part, on which you are willing to undertake the boarding of our family. You have very accurately recited in your note all the particulars of the agreement as it was made in conversation; and, after a reconsideration of them, we have now to say, that they are entirely satisfactory to us, and that we bind ourselves on our part to fulfil them. Contingences may easily arise, not contemplated in our arrangement, that may demand a larger expenditure on your part; in such case we shall cheerfully make every reasonable addition to our outlay. I have conversed with my Mother & ascertained that she has no design of making a visit to Staten Island this year, so that she may be reckoned a permanent boarder.

30. The 1836 edition of *Sartor Resartus* was published by James Munroe & Co. *Cf.* a note on Jan. 23, 1835, for evidence of earlier interest in arranging for the printing in book form.

31. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This MS, though wholly Emerson's, is unsigned and is apparently a draft or copy. In July 16, 1846, Emerson writes that the whole family have become boarders of Mrs. Marston Goodwin under their own roof. Mrs. Goodwin's stay of sixteen months in the Emerson home is recorded in Oct. 4, 1848, to Howe.

## To Wiley and Putnam, Concord, May 8, 1846 [32]

Concord 8 May 1846

Messrs Wiley & Putnam

Gentlemen,

Mr Carlyle writes me by the Cambria,[33] that no sheets come by this Steamer; but that by the packet of 3d May, he hopes the 2d Volume will go complete, &, if the printers make speed, almost the whole remainder may go by the June one. There is to be "a supplement to the first Edition" [34] containing all the new matter that is separable: of this too, he will send you your due copy to reprint. But, he says, "there will be no emulating of the Second Edition except by a reprint of the whole of it. Changes great & small have had to introduce themselves everywhere, as these new Letters were woven in."

I shall write Mr C. & request him to send his sheets directly to your house in London,[35] & so have them forwarded to you; a simple course which I have neglected to recommend.

Respectfully,

R. W. Emerson.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, May 14, 1846

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed incompletely in *C–E Corr.*, 1883, where about one-fourth of a page of the MS text is omitted. In the omitted passage Emerson says he is glad that Carlyle likes the terms offered by Wiley & Putnam and advises that the sheets be given to Putnam in London.]

## To John Chapman, Concord, May 15, 1846

[MS listed and partly quoted in American Art Association Anderson Galleries, Mar. 11 and 12, 1936. Emerson explains that his projected volume of poems, though pretty certain to be ready for the following Christmas, still remains imperfect. Munroe & Co., he adds, ask to reprint the first and second series of *Essays* in two uniform volumes. As he wishes, however, to keep the first series in one volume, the second needs a considerable addition to go as its companion. *Cf.* May 30, 1845.]

32. MS owned by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; ph. in CUL. For the ambitious scheme of Wiley & Putnam for reprints of Carlyle's works, see especially Apr. 9, 1846, as actually sent.

33. Carlyle, Apr. 18, 1846 (*C–E Corr.*). According to the *Daily Evening Transcript* of May 5, the "Cambria," which arrived that morning in Boston, had sailed from Liverpool on Apr. 19.

34. A copy of *Oliver Cromwell's Letters and Speeches . . . Supplement to the First Edition,* London, 1846, is still in the Emerson library at the Antiquarian House.

35. See the note on May 14 following.

### To William Henry Furness, Concord, May 22, 1846

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship,* p. 53.]

### To Edward Palmer, Concord? May 24, 1846

[Acknowledged in Palmer, New York, May 28, 1846. Palmer affirms his hope of becoming a true philosopher.]

### To Charles King Newcomb, Concord? May? *c.* 30? 1846

[An unfinished letter mentioned in July 16, 1846.]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, May 31, 1846

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.,* 1883.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, June 10, 1846 [36]

Concord 10 June 1846

Dear William

Mother has just come in again say for the fourth time to remind reluctant me that Elizabeth goes this P. M. to Boston & New York & must carry Lectures to you In vain I protest, in vain remonstrate, assert my knowledge that William Emerson is too fully occupied with those ominous books & MSS he duly brings from Wall Street to the Island — to read interminable Discourses on Representative Men or things He has to do with what New York calls men & things themselves. Susan, — I know her kind allowances & faithful appreciating affection, — and yet *brochures* of this size and in MS, and still expecting correction & full of interlinings, — it is not to be believed that any brother or sister in the New York world can have long suffering to this extent. But Mother is not to be put by. But, dear Mother, perhaps next winter, when I have written out these sketches, and better contented myself, who knows but I may carry them to N. Y. & entreat the whole Tabernacle to hear & urge William to go? — In vain; Mother is not to be evaded; so the most innocent looking one [37] of the pile is sent. This is the only apology I can give, this and Susan's expressed request, for sending the thing. The rest of them lie in pile, and are,

36. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

37. William Emerson wrote, June 19 (MS endorsed 1846), acknowledging the receipt of the lecture on Goethe and of this letter, by the hand of Elizabeth Hoar.

in a few days, it is to be hoped, to begin to receive their repairs – for printing, one day.

Mother has news today by a letter of George B. E. to me of her lost trunk.[38] He says it is or will be at his house from The Tremont Hotel. Bulkeley has paid us a visit of a few days in good health & is now again at Littleton I hope for the summer. Yours affectionately

Waldo.

### To William Henry Furness, Concord, June 10, 1846

[MS owned by Mr. Horace Howard Furness Jayne; printed in *Records of a Lifelong Friendship,* pp. 54–59 (including a poem sent with the letter).]

### To William Emerson, Concord? June 17, 1846

[Mentioned in William Emerson's letters of June 19 and Sept. 28 (both endorsed 1846; the second owned by Dr. Haven Emerson). Apparently about business matters.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, June 25, 1846[39]

Concord, 25 June, 1846.

Dear William,

I gave both your letters to Mother, who finds the suggestion good, as far as she understands it. She is content to give or to send you her "minutes," drawn up a long time since, & you are to put them into form. But if you are coming, as both she & I hope, to pay your annual summer visit, & that before long, she prefers to wait until you come, & you shall do it here. I made my will, during the last winter & had it properly confirmed. I was led to it mainly by the necessity of securing some trusteeship for a piece of land for Mr Alcott,[40] but I took the occasion to make a provision for Mother, in case of accident to you & me, that she might not want a piece of bread; and a provision for Bulkeley, that should not leave him wholly to you, in case of my demise: but my estate was to continue to bear my part. I tell Mother, that I think these testamentary provisions of hers & yours & mine ought to be in concert, that we may all foresee that Bulkeley is secure of maintenance jointly, & not each aim at that

38. *Cf.* May 19, 1845, and other letters.

39. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

40. As early as Dec. 22, 1844, and Jan. 4, 1845, Samuel J. May had written letters to Emerson regarding the provision of a home for the Alcotts which should not be under Alcott's own control.

end independently. And Mother is content to leave him to our joint care, so that we specially provide for him; which is just. One other affair, I think with Mother ought to be settled as soon as can be, and if you will come here, perhaps it can be done. namely, that Mother's interest in her fathers estate should be set off finally to her. You might go to Mr Ralph Haskins & propose to him to buy her portion of the estate for cash. It is easy to see that in case of his decease it would be a very difficult & troublesome property to manage. — The City have just now agreed to give the Estate $1195.00 for a piece of land & of the house which they cut off & appropriated in widening Harrison Avenue.[41] Mother will have $\frac{1}{18}$.

Yours affectionately,

Waldo —

I received your cheque for $50.00 & yesterday paid Dr Keep 150. I tell Mamma that if she finds herself pinched for spending money, she must tax us each the other $25.

## To the Corporation of Harvard University, Concord, June 25, 1846[42]

To the Corporation of Harvard
University.

Gentlemen,

I request the privilege of borrowing books from the College Library, subject to the usual rules for their safety & return.

I do not find myself included in any class of persons entitled by law to this privilege. I ask it as an alumnus of the College engaged in literary pursuits, & constantly in want of books which only the University can supply, & which it has provided for precisely such needs as mine; and as, in my residence, conveniently situated for easy access to Cambridge

I have formerly endeavoured to borrow books by special orders signed, in each case, by the President. But this mode is very troublesome to the President, & very inconvenient to the borrower. It may easily happen,

41. The deed for this land (copied in MS DLXIV, 294–295, Registry of Deeds, Suffolk County) was from Thomas Haskins, Elizabeth Haskins, Fanny Haskins, Ruth Emerson, and Ralph Haskins. The property is described as 247⅓ feet of land, "the same piece of Land which was taken to widen said Harrison Avenue by a Resolve of the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City of Boston passed September 29, 1845."

42. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Below Emerson's date line appears this notation, signed "E. E.": "Granted by vote of the Corporation 26 June 1846."

as it has happened to me, that after I have selected my books at the Library, the President is not at home, or not at liberty; then I must return to my house, fourtee [43] miles distant, without them.

Presuming the willingness of the Corporation to extend the usefulness of their valuable Library to the utmost limits compatible with safety, I pray them to grant me the right of taking books thence, from time to time, in my own name.

R. Waldo Emerson.

Concord, 25 June 1846.

### To Edward Everett, Concord, June 25, 1846 [44]

To President Everett.

Dear Sir,

I obey your advice, & inclose a petition,[45] which I will give you the trouble to present to the Corporation.

I return Mr Carlyle's letter, which I read with much interest although I have already heard much from him on the same subject of his new book. His naïf suggestion respecting the readableness of Goethe's "Wanderjahre" is quite in character, & reminds me of one of Charles Lamb's heroes who comes to your house & makes a point of showing you a landscape you have seen any time these twenty years.[46]

His new edition of "Cromwell," of which the first volume has passed through my hands, on its way to the American publishers,[47] is materially improved on the former.

With great respect,
Your obedient servant,
R. W. Emerson.

Concord, 25 June, 1846.

### To Wiley and Putnam, Concord? June? *c.* 26? 1846

[In May 31, 1846, Emerson said he would see Munroe about *Sartor Resartus;* in July 15 following he said he had seen Munroe and had written to Wiley & Putnam, explaining the Boston publisher's proposal.]

43. The word ran off the paper.

44. MS owned by the Massachusetts Historical Society; ph. in CUL. Everett had been president of Harvard only a few weeks when this letter was written.

45. Letter of the same date to the Corporation of Harvard University.

46. In "My Relations," *Essays of Elia.*

47. *Cf.* May 8, 1846.

### To Daniel Jefferson, Concord, June 29, 1846

[Printed, without the name of the person addressed, in *The Manchester Guardian,* Dec. 3, 1889. That Jefferson is the person addressed is clear from a comparison of this letter with his dated London, Apr. 3, 1846. For some of the contents of Jefferson's letter, see a note on Dec. 29, 1846, to William Emerson.]

### To Robert Bulkeley Emerson, Concord? July? *c.* 1? 1846

[Mentioned in Sept. 19, 1846. Doubtless there were other letters to Bulkeley which I have not found.]

### To Amasa Barrett, Concord? July *c.* 5? 1846

[Barrett, Bangor, Me., July 1, 1846, asks for a course of lectures at Bangor during the coming season. On the back of Barrett's letter, Emerson wrote a partial rough draft of a reply, stating that he was willing to come in September or October to deliver three or more lectures at $25 each. Barrett, Bangor, July 22, 1846, conditionally accepted Emerson's "proposition for lectures" and promised he would later name a day in October for the beginning of the course. Barrett, Aug. 3, 1846, named Oct. 6 and asked for an early reply, which Emerson probably sent. For Emerson at Bangor, see Oct. 7 ff., 1846.]

### To Margaret Fuller, Concord? July *c.* 13? 1846

[See Margaret Fuller as quoted in a note on July 24, 1846.]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, July 15, 1846

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.,* 1883.]

### To Charles King Newcomb, Concord, July 16, 1846[48]

Concord 16 [July 1846]

My dear Charles,

On my table still lies an unfinished letter[49] to you, whereof something more than one side was written immediately after receiving your musical adventures in New-York.[50] A sudden absence

48. MS owned by the Concord Free Public Library; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–II are in Cabot, I, 283–284. The address is to Newcomb at Providence.

49. May? *c.* 30? 1846.

50. Newcomb, Providence, May 25, 1846, said he had returned the day before from New York, where he had seen and heard the great things, including the festival concert at Castle Garden.

from home which interrupted the letter, seemed to make it impertinent, & I am very glad you give me a chance to repair my deficiency. The programme of the Ivory Christ [51] was not recoverable. Our whole house had undergone a revolution, as we have all become the boarders of Mrs Marston Goodwin under our own roof; [52] and in the mutation, if not sooner, that brochure has disappeared. For the White Mountains [53] I think the most frequented and as far as I know, the best way is to go from Boston to Concord, N. H. and to Centre-Harbor on Lake Winnepiseogee, Conway, & the Notch. Then after seeing the hills you go to the Franconia Notch see the Flume & Profile Mountain & go down the Connecticutt river to the Western railroad This I suppose the shortest way. At the White Hills, all good travellers think the Notch House of Crawford the true place from which the ascent should be made; & not Fabyan's. George Bradford confirms my memory in all these particulars; and sends you his love & congratulations on the good week before you. What books in your sack? Have you read Fremont's Journey? [54] That foolish conceited gossiping Mme. d'Arblay [55] I fell into last week, had never seen before, & found Hastings' Trial [56] & Dr Johnson & Mrs Thrale [57] admirable for railroad reading. But you are such an Emeritus, as they say in the colleges, such an Ex-reader, that I dare not name titles of printed books. [11]In a short time, if Wiley & Putnam smile, you shall have Henry Thoreau's " Excursion on Concord & Merrimack rivers," [58] a seven days' voyage in as many chapters, pastoral as Isaak Walton, spicy as flagroot, broad & deep as Menu. He read me some of it under an oak on the river bank the other afternoon, and invigorated me.[11] My respects you must present to your mother, and I wish you the happiest fruitfullest journey. Yours, R. W. Emerson.

51. In his letter of May 25 Newcomb had inquired for " a little pamphlet about the Ivory Crucifix " which he had left in Concord after his visit there.

52. *Cf.* Apr. 16, 1846.

53. Newcomb, Providence, July 14, 1846, asked advice about a trip he intended to make to the White Mountains.

54. J. C. Frémont's *Report,* 1845, told of his expeditions to the Rockies (1842) and to Oregon and North California (1843–1844).

55. The sixth and seventh volumes of the *Diary and Letters of Madame d'Arblay* were published in 1846.

56. Burke appears in the book list for 1846 in *Journals,* VII, 236.

57. Probably Hester Lynch Piozzi's *Anecdotes of the Late Samuel Johnson,* 1786, or her edition of *Letters to and from the Late Samuel Johnson,* 1788.

58. For the formal offer of the book to Wiley & Putnam, see Mar. 12, 1847; for its publication, see June 11, 1849, to Parker.

## To Richard Frederic Fuller, Concord, July 24, 1846 [59]

My dear Richard,

Margaret asked me to name an hour when I would come to see her & send it to you. If you know the time I have fixed to be pre-engaged, or not suitable, I can come on the 30th, or in the morning of the 31st. If you know no objection, keep the line [60] for Margaret.

Yours,

R. W. Emerson.

Concord.
24 July.

## To John P. Welch, Concord, July 24, 1846

[MS listed in Goodspeed's Book Shop, catalogue 174, n.d.; described there as about stock in the Fitchburg Rail Road, of which Welch was treasurer.]

## To Elizabeth Hoar, Concord, July 27, 1846 [61]

Concord, 27 July, 1846

Dear Elizabeth,

Mother brings me a message from your house which she seems to think urgent, requesting me to send you a letter. It is obviously a mistake; the message cannot have come from you Yet it gives me a sort of pretence for counting up how many times I have

59. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The address is to Richard F. Fuller at Boston. On July 15, 1846, Margaret Fuller had written to Emerson from New York that she expected to sail from Boston on the "Cambria" on Aug. 1, that she hoped to see him at her mother's home in Cambridgeport on July 30 or 31, and that she wished him to write "to care of Richard" which day it should be. But Higginson, *Margaret Fuller Ossoli*, p. 220, prints all of her letter except the following passages:

"Dear Waldo,

"I was very glad to get your note, for it began to seem as if you meant to let me go & make no sign. . . .

"Could you get me any other letters like to be of use.

"I write in killing haste but as

"ever yours

"Margaret."

To Emerson's note of July 24, Richard Fuller replied on July 25, designating 2:30 p. m. on the 31st as the time for the meeting with his sister.

60. Apparently Emerson inclosed a memorandum of the date he preferred; this may have been in the form of a letter to Margaret Fuller.

61. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is in *Cent. Ed.*, IX, 443. The address is to Elizabeth Hoar in care of Henry White at New Haven, Conn.

been to Boston since you were in Concord, how many hayrigging parties we have made to the Whortleberry Pasture, and all other important adventures. Mr Channing has returned,[62] after spending 16 days in Rome; Mr Thoreau has spent a night in Concord jail on his refusal to pay his taxes; [63] Mr Lane is in Concord endeavoring to sell his farm of "Fruitlands"; [64] Mr E — but I spare you the rest of the weary history. It seems the very counting of threads in a beggar's coat, to tell the chronicle of nothings into which nevertheless thought & meaning & hope contrive to intervene and it is out of this sad lint & rag fair that the web of lasting life is woven. No friends to tell you of; that were better. I remember your specification, but I expected not at that time to have any communications with such, & have had none. I had taken my part. You would laugh too if I should tell you of my reading — It is not Plato — Of my writing, what is always true, is now, the hanker-

62. The *Daily Evening Transcript* of July 3, 1846, announced the arrival of "W C Channing" in the "Nebraska" at New York from Marseilles. For his sailing for Europe a few months earlier, see a note on Feb. 16, 1846.

63. *Cf. Journals*, VII, 219.

64. On June 23, 1846, Charles Lane had written from Boonton, N. J., that the best way to clear up his unsatisfactory connection with Fruitlands seemed to be by sale and that he wished Emerson to put that farm into the hands of an agent. "You may describe it," wrote Lane, "as about 90 acres, of which about 15 are excellent wood; the land unusually free from rocks, the average; good, and part very productive. Fine crops of hay, maize, rye, wheat, potatoes &c. Buildings included $2100. The water quite pure and abundant. . . . I will pay agency on the sale . . . I should feel obliged by your setting it afloat for me . . . For all which trouble you shall have the exceeding great reward of an approving heart."

Emerson presently took measures toward setting the place "afloat," as Lane desired. He apparently cleared up Joseph Palmer's status as prospective purchaser of the farm by giving him this receipt, now owned by Miss Clara Endicott Sears at Fruitlands:

"Concord, 17 August, 1846.

"Received of Joseph Palmer one dollar in full of all demands for rent, crops, stock, tools, or other claims in respect to farm of Charles Lane in Harvard, held in trust by me for Charles Lane.

"R. Waldo Emerson.

"Charles Lane"

On the following day, Aug. 18, Emerson, as Lane's agent, executed the deed (recorded with Worcester District deeds, MS CCCCXV, 253; partly reproduced in facsimile in Annie M. L. Clark, *The Alcotts in Harvard*, 1902), transferring the land to Joseph Palmer in consideration of $1700. Later letters mention payments which Emerson collected through Palmer's son on notes given, it seems, to cover $1300 owed for the land (*cf.* June 14, 1847, and Oct. 10, 1848). On the same Aug. 18, Lane and Palmer signed an agreement for the establishment of a new and curious kind of community, partly on Palmer's newly-acquired land (agreement printed in Clara Endicott Sears, pp. 135–136). Lane was soon off to England, but Palmer himself conducted his "home for tramps" for "upwards of twenty years" (*ibid.*, p. 137).

ing remains to write & write — absolutely without reference to subject matter; and I respect a fact so unaccountable. We should be no better than parsnips, if we could not still look over our shoulders at the Power that drives us, and escape from private insignificance into a faith in the transcendant significance of our doing & being which That charges itself with interpreting one day to all & to us. However, I wrote lately some verses called " Mithridates "; others called " Merlin "; others called " Alphonso of Castille "; [65] which I shall be impatient to show you, I doubt not, on your return, — for which I am impatient. The verses were long to write now in the end of an afternoon; yet if I learn that you are to stay long away, I shall send them; [1]specially some called " Bacchus." not however translated [66] from Hafiz.[1] Your brother

Waldo.

Mother sends her love, & laments the weakness of her eyes which hinder her from writing it herself. Margaret goes on Saturday from Boston:[67]

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, July 31, 1846

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

## To Thomas Carlyle, Boston, August 1, 1846 [68]

Boston, 1 August, 1846

Thomas Carlyle, Esq.

My dear Sir,

My friend Miss Fuller in company with Mr & Mrs Marcus Spring of New York, are leaving Boston, this day, for England. I hope they may find you returned from your rusti-

65. All the poems mentioned in this letter are dated correctly, as I suppose, in the *Cent. Ed.* except " Alphonso of Castile," there described (IX, 413) as written in the summer of 1847.

66. The *Journals* for 1846 show Emerson's interest in reading and Englishing Persian poetry through the medium of Hammer-Purgstall's German.

67. See Aug. 1, 1846.

68. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Carlyle, by " Miss Fuller." The *Daily Evening Transcript* of Aug. 1, 1846, lists Margaret Fuller among the passengers on the " Cambria," which cleared that day for Liverpool. Emerson had sent Carlyle a special plea on her behalf in the letter of the preceding day. Carlyle reported the visit from her and from the Springs in his letter of Dec. 18, 1846 (*C–E Corr.*). Margaret Fuller's own record is in *Memoirs*, Boston, II, 184–190. For Marcus and Rebecca Spring, see especially Fredrika Bremer, *The Homes of the New World*, 1853, I, 71 *et passim*. Some comment on their relations with Margaret Fuller and their voyage to Europe and travels there with her is given in *Memoirs*, II, 171 *et passim*.

cation, before they leave London for the Continent. I shall not think Miss Fuller has been in England, until she has seen you & Mrs Carlyle; and, since I cannot go to London myself, you must tell her every thing for me. Farewell!

R. W. Emerson.

To James John Garth Wilkinson, Concord? August? *c.* 1? 1846

[Wilkinson, London, Dec. 1, 1846, says he duly received Emerson's letter introducing Margaret Fuller. For the probable date, *cf.* letters of July 24 and Aug. 1, 1846. The beginning of Emerson's active interest in the British author may, I think, have been the latter's gift of his *Remarks on Swedenborg's Economy of the Animal Kingdom,* 1846. The copy of this work still in the Emerson House, at Concord, contains Wilkinson's inscription, dated London, May 14, 1846.]

To Lidian Emerson, Concord, August 18, 1846 [69]

Tuesday 18 Aug. 1846

Dear Lidian,

I do not hear that there is any reply to be made today to your bandbox letter of last evening, unless it be a suggestion from myself, that you will sharpen your pencil-point a very little; nor do I know of any material occurrence here since the voluminous journals of yesterday [70] were forwarded. Mr Lane departed to Harvard this noon, armed by Mr Hoar & myself with new documents,[71] to make a treaty with his tenant; corn ripens, & apples fall, hammers thump, and women wash on Monday & Tuesday: but nothing will befal which you would die to know; so you may even turn to sleep again without turning over the leaf, & sleep with the sleepy genius of the Horizon.

Eddy highly enjoys his running on the top of the hill & down the steep knolls towards Sleepy Hollow, yesterday eve & Sunday eve. — Louisa's visit puzzled him with some doubts concerning Abby's divisibility, or some Siamese existence; but he has not fully explained himself; for whilst he was, as he thought, cuddling up to one Abby in bed, Abby walked in to the chamber. — Miss Pelly Cotton has sent you some sopsavines. —

69. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Lidian Emerson at Plymouth, Mass.

70. Probably a letter from Emerson himself, though possibly by some other member of the household.

71. *Cf.* a note on July 27, 1846.

We shall all expect to hear better news of you speedily.

You will have heard of the death of my old friend, Mrs Dalton of Lowell.[72] I hear & shrink. Mother sends her love. — The children are gone gipsying with Miss Ford [73] again today.

W.

## To James Elliot Cabot, Concord, August 19, 1846 [74]

Concord, Aug. 19, 1846.

My dear Sir,

I shall always remember you as one of the most munificent lenders of books & of MSS. of whom I have any experience, and I hope you will not often meet with friends who will exercise your magnanimity to the same extreme to which I have tried it. I have had for months no excuse for keeping these extracts from the Bhagavat,[75] except the unwillingness to send them home alone. But the Schelling [76] I have only now concluded to let alone. I wish you might some day feel disposed to print it, that it might go magnetising about to search for the souls now unknown that belong to it. Yet that were hazardous, since it is one of the books, like my Alexandrian Platonists, which seem to require a race of more longevity & leisure than mankind, to sound all these depths, which yet do not pretend to be the sea, but only the swimming school. But again I should like to have you print it, as it would seem to commit you in some sort to the prosecution of these studies. — I wish you had let me see you on the day you called at my house. I am really in these days making some progress toward printing the Poems you so kindly inquire after.

Your obliged friend & servant,

R. W. Emerson.

J. Elliot Cabot, Esq.

72. The *Daily Evening Transcript,* Boston, Aug. 14, 1846, announced the death of Julia Ann, wife of Dr. John C. Dalton.

73. Sophia Foord, Milton, Mass., July 27, 1847, recalls the days spent "under your roof." This is signed "Sophia F.," but the name "Foord" is given in Emerson's endorsement. Sanborn, who spells the name as Emerson does in the present letter, gives some information about her activities as a teacher of "six girls in Mrs. Emerson's school room" in "1847" (*Bronson Alcott,* p. 100). The letter of Oct. 26, 1846, shows Miss Foord as the teacher of Emerson's daughters about that time, and she also appears as a teacher in Sept. 11, 1846.

74. MS owned by Professor Philip Cabot; ph. in CUL.

75. *Cf.* the letters of May 30 and June 17, 1845.

76. *Cf.* Aug. 3, 1845, and Sept. 7, 1846.

## To Lidian Emerson, Concord, September 3, 1846[77]

3 Sept

Dear Lidian,

There was much contentment here from your letter which came when I was gone & was read by Mamma as I had left permission Nothing happens here except the rumour that Sarah Clarke will come to Concord to live with her brother Thomas who is to be Mrs Ripley's scholar during his College suspension.[78] E P Peabody has come home & brings earnest requests that you & I should go to Waterford. — In the Xn Register of 22 Aug. is a good piece of M. M. E s a Dialogue, signed M. E.[79] — But though days go smoothly enough they do not bring me in their fine timely wallets the alms I incessantly beg of them.[80] Where are the melodies, where the unattainable words, where the efficacious rhymes, that make night & day alike, good luck & bad, and abolish all that is called fortune or glory, before the serenity & security of him that heareth these? Where? Where? If Eddy knows them, send him back by car or boat or cloud. No, he is only the theme of these. One day that strange revolution & Declaration of Independence which occurs in human breasts may befal in his, & he may know himself & these, and begin to murmur incantations of his own. But I have not a moment as men of leisure never have to write to or of wife or child so farewell. The wind to the wind.[81]

## To James Freeman Clarke, Concord, September 4, 1846[82]

Concord 4 Sept

Rev J. F. Clarke.

My dear Sir,

Elizabeth Hoar & other good persons have heard that your Mother & sister had made some application to Mrs Ripley to

77. MS owned by Mrs. Eric Schroeder; ph. in CUL. The address is to Lidian Emerson "At Mrs Cox's" in Plymouth, Mass. The year is fixed by evidence cited below.

78. Thomas Curtis Clarke graduated at Harvard in 1848. For his coming to Concord, see also the letters of Sept. 4 and 11, 1846. Sarah Bradford Ripley had moved into the Old Manse in Concord in the spring of 1846 (*Worthy Women*, p. 185).

79. "The Meeting of Two Friends after Long Separation by Death," in the *Christian Register*, Aug. 22, 1846, is by "M. E." and is dated from "Maine."

80. *Cf.* "Days," not published till 1857.

81. Emerson was doubtless thinking of Shakespeare's *Troilus and Cressida*, V, iii.

82. MS owned by Mr. James F. Clarke; ph. in CUL. The date is clear from the letters of Sept. 3 and 11, 1846.

receive your brother as a student; And Mrs Ripley, at a little party last evening, said she had made objections, which she had withdrawn immediately on knowing that your mother & sister were proposing to come also into town. But it did not appear to those of us most interested, that your friends had any information that Mrs Ripley was now willing to receive an application, & that your sister Sarah's friends are very anxious that we may secure such a sojourner in the town. So I was charged, & very willingly accepted the charge, to say so much to you, hoping it will be in good time. If on other accounts it is convenient, — we will do all in our power to find a good boarding-place. With my best regards to Sarah,

Your friend & servant,
R. W. Emerson.

## To James Elliot Cabot, Concord, September 7, 1846 [83]

Concord 7 Sept 1846

My dear Sir,

I am very well pleased that you will print the "Essay on Freedom," [84] which, I doubt not, will be a benefit & a credit to to the country. Its audience may be more thankful than numerous, yet our people have so decided a taste for ethical writings, that I see no reason to question a sufficient sale to make it a safe enterprise. I shall be in town in a few days, & will see Munroe, & will write [85] you what he says.

Thank you for your tenderness to the "Poems." I wish they were a good deal better, but such as they are, I mean to dismiss them from my charge to a printer's, by the end of this month.[86] In the best hope for our undertakings, yours,

R. W. Emerson.

## To A. W. Farr, Concord? September 8, 1846

[Acknowledged in Farr, Lowell, Mass., Sept. 8, 1846, as "Yours of this date." Farr regrets Emerson's inability to accept an invitation to lecture at Lowell.]

83. MS owned by Professor Philip Cabot; ph. in CUL. There is a full superscription.

84. Doubtless a translation of "Philosophische Untersuchungen über das Wesen der menschlichen Freyheit" (*F. W. J. Schelling's philosophische Schriften*, 1809, I, 397–511). *Cf.* Aug. 3, 1845, and the letters of Aug. 19 and Sept. 10, 1846. So far as I know, Cabot's plan to publish was not carried out.

85. Sept. 10, 1846.

86. For publication, see Dec. 29, 1846, to William Emerson.

## To James Elliot Cabot, Concord, September 10, 1846 [87]

Concord, 10 Sept. 1846

My dear Sir,

I was in town yesterday & this morning & saw Munroe & his partner each for a few minutes but not together as one must do to get their ultimatum concerning a book.[88] Munroe for some cause did not come into town this morn$^{g}$. I found them both rather indisposed to make any very good offer for a book on philosophy. Their "Fichte" [89] has not sold, nor their Richter books, which they reckon 'Philosophy' also. Neither of the partners expressed any willingness to assume the book themselves; but Dennett [90] (the partner) expressed his own willingness to print the book for you on the system of half profit & half expense; which I think Munroe will also accede to, if it is proposed to him, and that would be the safest way. You are then sure of their best exertions to spread the book. Munroe's rough estimate was, that a book in the style of his "Fichte," of 200 pages, would cost $300.00 for 1000 copies, or, 30 cents apiece. I dare not assure them of any crowd of purchasers, and they think that New York buys few books of the German class. It were a pity if New England could not alone pay for the book. When you are in town, I think you had better call on these men, &, if you like it, propose to them the plan of half-adventures. John Owen, I understand, has failed.[91] So will not we.

Yours,

R. W. Emerson

87. MS owned by Professor Philip Cabot; ph. in CUL. The address is to Cabot in Boston.

88. See Sept. 7, 1846.

89. James Munroe & Co. had published William Smith's *Memoir of Johann Gottlieb Fichte,* Boston, 1846, and Jean Paul Richter's *Flower, Fruit and Thorn Pieces,* tr. Edward H. Noel, Boston, 1845.

90. *Cf.* Apr. 24, 1844.

91. The Middlesex County MS records show that on Dec. 23, 1846, John Owen filed his petition of insolvency dated Dec. 22 of that year. The discharge is dated July 11, 1847. Owen, long a publisher in Cambridge, had much to do with Longfellow's books (*cf.* George L. Austin, *Henry Wadsworth Longfellow,* new ed., 1888, *passim*).

## To Lidian Emerson, Concord, September 11, 1846[92]

Concord 11 Sept 1846

Dear Lidian

At home I found your letter in good pen & ink with its excellent inclosures from the children. Eddie's finale is inimitable. In return, I have little to send except " the old nine shillings a week " as Nancy said. Here are $30.00 — I am sorry to see a little stroke of black in the end of your picture, as I thought Plymouth air & freedom & friends would scatter every cloud for three weeks at least. Yesterday Mrs Clarke came here with her son to ask for board.[93] Mrs G. talked with me & in Miss Foord's absence gave the Clarkes a contingent promise to take them. Miss Foord[94] shall have a bed in the schoolroom if she will & I will make a chimney there. Blanchard thinks he can make a chamber over the schoolroom in the barn, of the same size, with a staircase outside on the south, all lathed & plastered (& not painted) for $30.00. The chimney if added, will cost 12.00 more. I think of this as desireable on several accounts, but should be glad to have you see or rather make the plan. And if you think to come home so soon as a week from Monday, I shall stay proceedings But meanwhile; you must be very well, & not refuse the prosperities of Plymouth air & earth. Mother has gone to dine at Elizabeth H.'s Love to Ellen & Edie & my boy The birds come into the garden to bid them 'good bye,' before they take their flight for the South, and they must make haste home if they wish to see the birds go who were eggs in the spring. Your affectionate —

W.

## To Abby Larkin Adams, Concord, September 15, 1846[95]

Concord, Tuesday P M
Sept. 15

Dear Abby,

Mr Bradford thinks he had the promise of a visit from you & Lucia to the North Branch; I assure myself that I had a consent

92. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This, like the letter of Sept. 15 to the same correspondent, is addressed to Lidian Emerson " At Mrs Cox's," Plymouth, Mass.

93. *Cf.* the letters of Sept. 3 and 4, 1846. Rebecca Hull Clarke was the mother of James Freeman Clarke, mentioned in Sept. 4 (*cf. James Freeman Clarke*, p. 6).

94. See a note on Aug. 18, 1846.

95. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Miss Abby L. Adams in care of Abel Adams at " Lynn (Beach)," Mass. Sept. 15 fell on Tuesday in 1846,

from you to come here one day this summer. This week we can assure to you both a better room than next week, and as good a welcome as any time or anybody; so I add my entreaty that you will come on Thursday; in the 11 o'clock train from Charlestown; come both of you directly to this house, & stay here until the weather is propitious for the river, which may not be the first day. And I will be

Your affectionate Uncle,
Waldo Emerson.

### To Lidian Emerson, Concord, September 15, 1846 [96]

Concord, 15 Sept. 1846

Dear Lidian

Yes, the treasures came safe, and are of that value, I hope, that eleven years are not too many to pay for. There is a great deal more meaning in these anniversaries than we can say, a great deal more than we know. I thankful wonder & wander on, encouraged certainly to expect more, from the much I behold. But we must thank & hope; we must not fret & despond. This cold evening Abby is getting ready her bundle & I write to insert the money – otherwise should have taken daylight & day thoughts. It is still doubtful if the Clarkes come [97] but I shall add the barn room if they do & Thoreau is to build it & I am sorry you are are not here to instruct. The children are heartily glad to be at home again as we were very glad to get them from the oldest to the youngest in the house. I carried them in town to see Mrs Washburn in Louisburg Square [98] who has long had a promise of it. Unhappily it was an anxious day The failures were likely to make Mr Washburn fail & he is certain to lose a great deal of property & the good Aunt is to leave her fine house But she behaved very well & was very kind to Ellen & Edith.

Henry T. has returned safe from Katahdin, after the finest adventures in batteaus, lakes, & mountains.[99] I enclose 10.00, though I knew not well how to get it, & have taken Mother's last dollar. So you must bring home all you can spare. I cannot come now to Plymouth, though I should like to on all accounts, but my near visit to Bangor (6 Octo-

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the year indicated by comparison with the letter of Sept. 18, 1846, where Lucia Russell and Abby Adams, and George Bradford's invitation, are mentioned.

96. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

97. *Cf.* Sept. 3, 1846, and later letters.

98. *Stimpson's Boston Directory*, 1846, shows that Abiel Washburn, Jr., dealer in dry goods, lived at 11 Louisburg Square.

99. Thoreau's account is in his "Ktaadn."

ber) [100] enforces my endeavor to finish the Poems this month, and I must stay at home.

Yours affectionately,

W

Mother insists that her love should be sent, if on the outside.[101] & desires that you may come home greatly better.

## To Lidian Emerson, Concord, September 18, 1846 [102]

*Concord. Sept. 18*

Dear Lidian,

What again so sad? and I at this distance can know no reason: At Plymouth, where all should be so fresh, & wonted, & affectionate; I fear you have not tried the ocean, as you were bidden. Abby will write you of the children who are well, and, as they say on all sides here, are more plump & brown than when they went. Eddie is plainly glad to be at home. And is better company than ever. We have here been inviting Abby Adams & Lucia Russell to come & spend a day this week: George B. having promised them a sail on the North Branch one day this summer; [103] and we told them they would have a better room if they came this week but we hear nothing from them & suppose they do not get our letters.[104]

I send back the $3.00 that you may come well & stately out of Plymouth & we will stave off every claim for a shilling till October. But by all means you must keep a cheerful heart before God & men.

Yours affectionately,

W.

## To Lidian Emerson, Concord, September 19, 1846 [105]

19 Sept, Concord.

All is well in these low precincts for one day more. Mamma is gone up the road alone to Littleton, in the cars, to see Bulkeley.[106] We had

100. See Oct. 7, 1846.

101. This sentence is written in the margin of the superscription.

102. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Like several other letters of Sept., 1846, this is addressed to Lidian Emerson "At Mrs Cox's," Plymouth, Mass.; and the year 1846 is confirmed by evidence cited below.

103. *Cf.* the letters of Sept. 15 (to Abby Adams) and 19, 1846.

104. Emerson may have written to Lucia Russell himself at this time.

105. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is again to Lidian Emerson "At Mrs Cox's," Plymouth, Mass. Evidence cited below shows that the year is 1846.

106. *Cf.* Sept. 21, 1846.

a letter from him, by which it appeared that he did not get the letter of permission & money I sent him to go to Boston with on 4 July,[107] so that his feeling of neglect was quite piteous; and Mamma took cake & plums & set forth today. She will come back this afternoon The children are very well thriving and Eddy favors me with his company & some precious articulations two or three times a day. Edie came yesterday to have the days counted for her, at the end of which she might be refreshed by your return. No Lucia, no Abby appears.[108] Frank [109] appears to find consolations in philosophy or friendship or guns for his long loneliness. Others try apples — peaches — poetry — with varying success. You have the sea if you will use it. Elizabeth H. was in here just now and I put to her the question whether those recent rough & most uncanonical verses of mine which have strewed my floor lately were printable — she hesitates ominously they are not those she would read — yet I am eager to have something so memorable as these will be to common youth stand within the covers. But there is no time — I wrote you yesterday & shall see you on Tuesday & may you have happy hours between! W.

## To William Emerson, Concord, September 21, 1846 [110]

Concord 21 Sept 1846

Dear William,

I am absurd in not answering earlier your letter concerning Mr Appleton's proposition [111] the days are so fast diminishing in which it can be entertained — But I am settling into the belief that the best offers of the booksellers are not good and that it is best for me to keep the property of my own book as I have usually done and only employ them as publishers. I have usually found that in that way, I received at last only a little less than 33 per cent on the retail price of the book or if I cheapen the book to the trade say 30 or 25 per cent. There is no risk in so doing, for my books uniformly pay for themselves, and this book of poems is much more sure of an easy sale than its foregoers. The objection to this course is, that the bookseller will

107. Letter of July? *c.* 1? 1846.

108. *Cf.* Sept. 18, 1846.

109. Apparently Francis Brown.

110. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

111. William Emerson, Aug. 19, endorsed 1846 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson): "I have proposed your book to Appleton & Co, & they offer you 15% on the retail price of all copies sold."

not press the sale of the book at a distance which he prefers to sell at his own counter and monopolize the retail commission, which is larger. But if the book is good, the distant trader will have to send for it, & then it will go to him at trade prices. If I publish it myself, as I incline to, I shall have to employ, I suppose, my old agents here; [112] as I can more easily work with them, & can know if they do me any wrong; but at a distance I cannot work so well, nor know if I am fairly treated.

Our people in Boston like a costly book So I think to get a good edition of the poems first; and if it seems advisable I will presently after print on coarser paper.

Mr Appleton's offer is about as good or nearly as good as Wiley & Putnam's last fall.[113] Munroe would readily rise on either of them. I believe, a bookseller who had capital, & knew what Munroe & I know, could make me a much better offer, which I might accept.

I ought to have apprised Mr Appleton when it was in his consideration, — that I mean to offer only the American sale of the poems, as I have promised Chapman in London to send him a copy that he can copyright.[114] The book itself is about done: I mean it shall end with this month. And it is never separable from my person long enough to go to N. Y. & Staten Island, as I meant it should, in its callow state.

Lidian has not yet returned from Plymouth The children have come home well Mother went on Saturday to Littleton in cars without escort; & found Bulkeley well & happy; & returned safely at night. Mr Hall charges board for the 3 months last, at $1. per week, & credits 6.00 for his work. I think he might have rendered a still more favorable account by mother's statement, and am sorry I cannot go there a day. Mother's eyes are improved & she thinks shortly to write you a letter with her own hand. With love to Susan, & to the boys, Yours,

Waldo —

112. Just a month later, on Oct. 21, Emerson signed the extant agreement with James Munroe & Co. for the publication of the poems. The author was to bear all expense of manufacture and of copies to editors; the publishers were to account for all copies sold, at 30 percent discount from retail price, and were to allow 20 percent discount to the trade. The first edition was to consist of 1500 copies. Emerson saw to it that his friend Channing was taken care of by annexing an agreement providing for the publication of Channing's volume of poems on the same terms, except as to the number of copies.

113. See Oct. 14, 1845, to Duyckinck.

114. In May 30, 1845. *Cf.* also May 15, 1846.

### To Samuel Gridley Howe and Others, Concord, September 23, 1846

[Printed in *Address of the Committee Appointed by a Public Meeting, Held at Faneuil Hall, September 24, 1846*, 1846, p. 31; reprinted in Vincent Y. Bowditch, I, 182–183, and elsewhere, with some variations of text.]

### To John C. Randall, Concord? September? *c.* 27? 1846

[Randall, Newburyport, Mass., Sept. 25, 1846, invited Emerson to lecture before the Newburyport Lyceum on Oct. 30. Emerson endorsed Randall's letter: "Yes 30 Oct." I suppose this may be the letter to Randall described in Goodspeed's Book Shop, undated catalogue 169, as of the year 1846 and "on lecturing."]

### To John Chapman, Concord? September? *c.* 30? 1846

[Mentioned in Oct. 13, 1846, as sent "by last steamer," apparently the "Cambria," which cleared from Boston for Liverpool on Oct. 1, according to the *Daily Evening Transcript* of that date.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, October 3, 1846 [115]

Concord, Oct. 3, 1846.

Dear William,

I duly received your letter & the enclosed cheque for $207.95 [116] and ought already to have acknowledged it. I have heard also, — was it by letter of yours — that your engineering operations were actively begun & in operation, I hope to the best result. And Mr Prichard confided that Mr Folsom would perform his promises in August. I conclude that he did. — For our book, it must, as you say, take its chance and is sure enough to be well filed first or last. Tis a pure gain when any of the filing can be done before publishing. We pray & deprecate, but we pray to them that have no mercy. Of which Achillean property in our patrons he is lucky who is surest convinced beforehand. On Monday, I go to Bangor for a week or ten days, to read a few lectures. My poetry does not go to England until the 16th instant. It goes to press here, I think, next week.

Mother is gone to Boston & Roxbury for a day or two. She returned

115. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

116. William Emerson, Sept. 28, endorsed 1846 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), says this sum comprises interest due on $5800 Oct. 1 next and his share of Bulkeley's expenses.

safely from Littleton, & really, though brave, ran no risks. & enjoyed her day much. It is a great satisfaction to her to see Bulkeley now & then, so well-placed, & enjoying so much. I have paid Mr Hall's bill from 22 May to 19 Sept., yesterday $11.17 He charges 1.00 per week and credits him 6.00 for labor, during the season. — Ezra Ripley is appointed Preceptor of the Milton Academy for the year, to his great contentment. With love from all ours to all yours

Your brother
Waldo.

## To Lidian Emerson, Bangor, Maine, October 7, 1846[117]

Bangor, October 7, 1846

Dear Lidian

I had the best night to come from Portland hither that could be, and have found a good many old acquaintances here. Here are Kent Hill & Moody my classmates; here is Hedge; and I find a constant kindness from Mr Wm Emerson, an old resident here, who, Mother may remember, was very attentive & useful to me long ago, when I spent a month here.[118] He has this morning carried me in his buggy all round & over & through & in & out the streets & roads & high & low places of Bangor. He settled here forty years ago & has seen the growth of the population from 600, to 11000 or 12000 souls. I live at the Bangor House, and am well taken care of. Last night I read my first Lecture.[119] I find the committee here disposed to keep me for a fortnight. Perhaps I indisposed them a little by the lecture, and if I should again, it will be the easier to come away. I saw yesterday Mrs Farrar, Mr Hedge's friend, a beautiful person of very pleasing manners. Perhaps there is too much & too many in Bangor, than that I can end the verses, which I brought along with me, to give them the chances of a few days more. Hedge is, unluckily for me, mortgaged to his book,[120] which he is to carry to Philadelphia next week;

117. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

118. For the earlier visit of a month and for the Emerson and Goss here mentioned, see the letters of June 8 and July 12 and *c.* 15, 1834.

119. For negotiations concerning the course at Bangor this year, see a note on July *c.* 5? 1846. According to an announcement in a local paper, Emerson was to give six lectures, but I find only five advertised in the *Bangor Daily Whig and Courier* on the days of delivery, the first two without mention of subjects: Oct. 6; 7; 9, "Napoleon"; 13, "Montaigne"; 15, "Goethe."

120. Probably his *Prose Writers of Germany*, Philadelphia, 1848.

You must send me immediate word how you do, & the children, & Mother, with all specialties. If you want money also, send me word, & I will enclose a cheque. Mr Goss, whose wife is William Emerson's daughter [121] brought to Boston an invitation to you to accompany me hither, but I missed him in Boston. Love to Ellen & Edith & Edward each & all whom I miss day by day. I hope Mother arrived safely home on Monday eve. Adams [122] promised his care. Tell her I saw John H. Ladd in town, who promised to see her if he could before she should leave B. So I will leave off whilst I can.

Yours affectionately,
W

To Lidian Emerson, Bangor, Maine, October 9, 1846 [123]

Bangor 9 October

Dear Lidian,

I hope the Post Office will bring me something this morning from you. I have yet no word from home. I spend my time agreeably enough here not very literarily. I see lumber rafting & mills & sluices. Today I am to go across the river into the country ten or fifteen miles, to see a tract of unincorporated land on which a friend of mine is to settle a colony of Germans, who have just arrived here, from the country about Berlin. A character is so rare, that Mr William Emerson whom I mentioned, occupies me a good deal; though I thought I had done with him a dozen years ago. He is brother of Mrs Goss, not father, as I wrote.[124] He is a bachelor. A letter from Aunt Mary [125] instructs me in her affairs & insists on being informed respecting E. P. Peabody's religion: also concerning T. T. Stone's genius & philosophy. Perhaps Elizabeth Hoar will undertake these elucidations. Aunt Mary expresses the warmest interest in your health, declaring that " there never was a truer higher principled woman. What a rarity is sincerity! " So take good care of yourself, O sincere, true,

121. The statement is corrected in Oct. 9, 1846.

122. Augustus Adams, perhaps. *Cf.* Oct. 26, 1846.

123. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The year is clearly 1846.

124. In Oct. 7, 1846.

125. Mary Moody Emerson wrote from Elm Vale, Oct. 3, 1846, a letter marked Oct. 7 by the postmaster at South Waterford, Me. The address was to Emerson in care of Hedge at Bangor. On Sept. 22 preceding, she had written to her nephew and to Elizabeth Hoar on the same sheet. Probably he wrote his aunt more than one letter about this time, but I have found none.

high-principled one! Also let not the devil of lies[126] come in upon Ellen, Edith & Eddie. Men of the world are very skeptical in the honesty of men but the grown people seem to me very much the same as the children superficially a little more civil & designing but really about as selfish & about as innocent. And their frauds have seldom any high degree of malignity: they are commonly only the resources of their weakness, pieceing the hide of the lion with the skin of the fox. In the superior class of men, in the men of brilliant powers & place, we demand integrity as a beauty & costliness which they can & must afford. But the Ghost of Judge Story should have risen to defend his ermine from soil in a conversation which I heard here where his wisdom & his honesty were very freely impeached by men reciting his decisions that Sumner knows not of. I hope there is quite another side to be heard. At this distance you seem to me so surrounded by good people that I will not even begin to send love & respect. Tell your poor ignorant husband all that befalls. Love to Mamma

Yours, W —

## To Lidian Emerson, Bangor, Maine, October 12, 1846[127]

Bangor-House
Oct. 12, Monday.

Most philosophical Lidian, who will not vouchsafe a single line to inform a poor strayed husband, of the existence & welfare of his wife & children, of letters, or business respecting him or them. Now it is too late for me to ask for a letter; * as I shall probably set out on my return on Friday, & may get home on Saturday night. Had you no letters from any quarter to send me; no account of barnbuilding;[128] no tidings whether Plymouth were burned or no? The only letter I have received here is from Aunt Mary.[129] Mr Hedge preached yesterday very well, & I heard him all day. It was a real satisfaction to know that such good

* It is not intended I believe that I shall read more than 5 lectures[130]

126. Literary allusions to the Devil as deceiver are plentiful, especially in the *Bible*. The epithet " authour of confusion and lies " occurs in Burton, *The Anatomy of Melancholy*, 1804, II, 521.

127. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Oct. 12 fell on Monday in 1846, plainly the year of this letter.

128. *Cf.* Sept. 15, 1846, to Lidian Emerson.

129. *Cf.* Oct. 9, 1846.

130. *Cf.* a note on Oct. 7, 1846.

wise sermons are reading here every Sunday for these ten years past. Today I have had a long ride with Mrs Farrar, a beautiful woman of brave heart & clear head. But the new scenery & people have not yet helped me as I hoped, in the best of ways. The halting verses halt still. Tis greatly to be apprehended they are cripples for life. Love to Nelly & Edie. Where are their journals? Love to Eddy. Papa would so gladly give him a ride on his shoulder. With love to Mother & friendliest remembrances to George [131] & Miss Foord, your affectionate unlettered W.

### To John Chapman, Bangor? Maine, October *c.* 13? 1846

[Mentioned in Oct. 13, 1846.]

### To James Munroe and Company, Bangor, Maine, October 13, 1846 [132]

Bangor 13 Oct 1846

J Munroe & Co

Gentlemen,

I beg your immediate attention to the accompanying parcel for Mr Chapman in London.[133] If it reach you in time for your box, I should like to have it go in that. If not, please to forward it immediately to Harnden that it may go in this Steamer. If it is proper, you shall write on the outside, *Manuscript Copy for press.* . The letter to Chapman will you please also to forward by Harnden or mail.

I trust the storm which is blowing quite heavily around us here will not hinder our Bangor boat from making its trip in time.

In this parcel I send Chapman all the Copy of my poems, but the few last, which will go in the next steamer. I tell him that he must act in concert with you in reference to the time of publication. I wrote particularly on that matter by last steamer.[134] Now that I have got the right readings settled for him, I shall be able to finish & send you your Copy immediately on my return home, which should be on Saturday

131. Bradford.

132. MS owned by Mr. Owen D. Young; ph. in CUL. A cross or asterisk at the end of the fourth sentence was presumably added by a member of the company to whom the letter is addressed. So, doubtless, was this notation below the final sentence: "Say *Decr 1st.*"

133. *Cf.* Sept. 21, 1846. The MS for Chapman's London edition of the poems is also now in the library of Mr. Owen D. Young.

134. Letter of Sept.? *c.* 30? 1846.

next. I have duplicates of all but a few which I think to print directly from the Dial, indicating the *errata*. Monday or Tuesday we can begin to print.

Yours respectfully
R. W. Emerson.

You had better advise Chapman by this steamer how soon you will be ready with your edition for the issue of his.

### To Amory Dwight Mayo, Concord? October? *c.* 17? 1846

[Mayo, Gloucester, Mass., Oct. 14, 1846, invited Emerson to lecture there at a convenient time. Emerson's endorsement shows he replied that he would, but named no day. For Mayo, *cf.* Nov. 12, 1862.]

### To Harrison Gray Otis Blake, Concord, October 23, 1846

[MS listed and partly quoted in C. F. Libbie & Co., Feb. 15–16, 1910; mentions the positive and the negative attitudes between which the mind vibrates and according to which there seems to be no friendship or wisdom or else nothing but friendship and wisdom on every side.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, October 26, 1846 [135]

Concord 26 October 1846

Dear William,

I got your letter & instrument [136] on Saturday. To-morrow, I will try to go to Boston, & execute & despatch to you the paper again, as you direct me. I am not sufficiently acquainted with the plan of your estate to judge of your bargain, but am sorry, with Hugh, that the garden must go.

Hugh is working for me for a few days, &, among other things, setting up a long trellis for grapes. I have repeated to him many times, this summer, my injunction to lose no more time for me, in grapes: that I had always hitherto been told, I was too early, or too late; now, I should rely on him, whenever was the first good time to plant or transplant; & let me lose no more seasons. He promised well & fairly, &, I supposed, I had all the roots ready in my ground, long since, from your bounty at various times. But now, today, comes Hugh, & char-

135. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

136. William Emerson, undated but endorsed Oct., 1846, inclosed for signature a release on mortgages held by his brother on four and one-half acres of Staten Island land just sold at $500 an acre.

acteristically tells me, I have nothing here fit to use; that these vines are small things & will take endless time, but, that in that eternal " Island," Mr Emerson has plenty, plenty of noble layers, all put down by him Hugh last fall or last spring & that Mr Emerson will have to give them away to somebody &c. &c — Now if these things be so, and you are not fatigued & vexed with my beggings will you not make one generous instruction more to William Preston, or whatever friendly subaltern you have, to make me up a bundle of, say, a dozen of these plants, Catawba or Isabella (is not the last the safest for me?) & forward them to me, care of Augustus Adams, Concord Express, City Tavern, Boston. charging to me in account any incidental expenses. I request you, however, first of all, to consider, over Hugh, the whole statement, & do not let me be the victim of any romances of his. So will I use my best endeavours to stablish my vineyard, & tax yours no longer.

We are all sorry for the loss of your horse: we had read before, with apprehension, of the distemper. Mother sends her love & learns with interest all the particulars you give us of home. Lidian is in Boston. I sent my poems to Chapman in London, by the last steamer, & they are beginning to print here. Our friend Miss Foord, the teacher of Ellen & Edith, has left us lately, quite ill, & we hear very unfavorable accounts of her today. She is very much respected by all her friends

Love to Susan. I am very curious to see your projected improvements [137] & shall not neglect any chance that may occur to go to N. Y. Very glad of your letter &c to Hugh. Yours ever

Waldo

## To John Chapman, Boston, October 30, 1846 [138]

Boston October 30 1846

Mr John Chapman

Dear Sir,

I believe I sent you in my parcel of poems [139] all the pieces marked in the " Contents," [140] excepting a piece entitled

137. In the same letter, William had told of his plan to build a house on a commanding site and offer it for sale.

138. MS owned by Mr. Owen D. Young; ph. in CUL.

139. See Oct. 13, 1846.

140. A MS table of contents for the volume of poems is still with this letter. The titles " Wachusett " and " Leaves " have been crossed out. In another hand, probably the publisher's or printer's, the page numbers have been added to the titles.

" Musketaquid," and a collection of metrical scraps which I was to call " Leaves " or some similar name. I have rejected, one after another, all, or almost all these little pieces, & cannot decide to send you anything more than ' Musketaquid,' which, also has declined very much in my good graces by keeping. I was so careless as not to take a memorandum of the omissions or reservations, but, I believe, I sent you all the rest. And I find here at the last hours (absent from home for a week) that I cannot send duplicates of any thing that may have been omitted. So I think you had better print what you have, dropping, if need be, any title from your " Contents."

In answer to your inquiry respecting the N. A. Review; — I did write an article on Milton & one on Michel Angelo, in that Journal; the former in the Number for July, 1838; and the latter, in I know not what Number,[141] but within a year, I should think, of the other. I have written nothing else in the N. A. R. I am not very eager to recall either of these papers to notice, — which I have never seen since they were printed, and which were printed only to oblige the editor. I had rather not have them printed with my name. The articles on Canova, & on Goethe, in the Dial,[142] were written by Margaret Fuller, I believe. I have forgotten who wrote on Shelley.[143]

For the time of publishing the poems I hope Munroe & Co have given you particular advices as to their own day. I understand them to say they wish you not to let any copy go out of your hands before the 5th of December. I shall be glad to have you send with the author's compliments, an early copy of *your* edition to Mr Carlyle, to Mr J. J. G. Wilkinson, to Rev D. Thom,[144] to J. A. Heraud, Esq. and to Dr M'Cormac who tr[ans]lated [145] Epictetus, if you know his address.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

141. For Jan., 1837.

142. For Apr., 1843, and July, 1841.

143. Emerson had rated John M. Mackie's review of Shelley as part of the " morgue " in *The Dial* for Apr., 1841, a number which he seems to have been unable to read through (see Apr. 22, 1841).

144. For David Thom, the Liverpool preacher, see Nov.? *c.* 3? 1847. According to the catalogue of the British Museum, Henry MacCormac had published his translation *The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, with the Manual of Epictetus* in 1844. Emerson scattered copies of his *Poems* far and wide. *Journals*, VII, 234, shows he sent the book to more than eighty persons.

145. The MS is slightly torn at the edge.

### To Frederic Henry Hedge, Concord, November 7, 1846 [146]

Concord 7 Nov. 1846

My dear Hedge,

Will you not have the goodness to inquire at your Post Office for a letter which was addressed to me from home, & probably arrived at Bangor the day I left it; [147] — and re-address it to Concord, Mass: So shall you bind, as ever, your friend,

R. W. Emerson

I found in town yesterday a precious piece of gossip from London; that " Bells & Pomegranates " is engaged to " Seraphine " or Miss Barrett; who is, you know, the *divine bed-rid,* to whom Miss Martineau's " Invalid " Book was dedicated.[148]

### To James Munroe, Jr., Concord? November? 13? 1846

[Munroe, Boston, Nov. 12, 1846, says the Cambridge Lyceum would like to have a lecture " on the terms you mentioned," and he wishes to hear by return mail. The endorsement shows Emerson replied he would come Dec. 16 if wanted then. Probably his earlier communication about the terms was also a letter.]

### To Benjamin J. Bill, Concord? November? *c.* 17? 1846

[Bill, Saxonville, Mass., Nov. 19, 1846, says Emerson's letter was duly received and he is glad the reply is favorable but now it is necessary to change the day. Probably there was further correspondence. In an unpublished diary entry Saxonville is given Dec. 17 of this year (typescript *Journals*).]

### To John Boynton Hill, Concord, November 24, 1846 [149]

Concord. Nov. 24. 1846.

J. B. Hill. Esq.

My dear Sir,

Lest you should think I have forgotten my instructions from you touching the Buddhists, I hasten now to send this though imperfect apparatus. Here is the principal book, Upham,[150] that is to be

146. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Hedge at Bangor.

147. *Cf.* Oct. 12, 1846.

148. The Brownings had actually been secretly married on Sept. 12, 1846. Harriet Martineau's *Life in the Sick-room,* London, 1844, was dedicated " To ———," with a lengthy epistle to this anonymous invalid, who was expected, it seems, to discover for herself that she was the person addressed.

149. MS copy, not in Emerson's hand, owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Hill, Emerson's classmate, first appears as his correspondent shortly after graduation.

150. Edward Upham, *The History and Doctrine of Budhism,* 1829. According to a MS charge-book at HCL, Emerson drew this on Nov. 18, 1846.

found on the subject. Colebrooke [151] at this moment is not to be had perhaps I shall soon be able to procure it; then it shall go. Meanwhile I send a Cingalese poem.[152] In the absence of the Bhagavad Geeta, I have torn from a commonplace book this fine French sketch of Cousin,[153] which you must put together & read.

With great regard & respect —
Yours.
R. W. Emerson

### To Joseph Ricketson, Concord? November 26? 1846

[Acknowledged in Ricketson, New Bedford, Mass., Dec. 29, 1846, which shows Emerson has agreed to lecture there on Jan. 4. Ricketson's writing is not entirely clear, and it is just possible that the date of the letter acknowledged is given as 21st instead of 26th.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, November 27, 1846 [154]

Concord, 27 Nov. 1846

Dear William,

The grapevines arrived in beautiful order, and, though between asking & receiving our plan of planting had been somewhat modified & the ambitious trellis which Hugh & I have for some semesters plotted to build having met with the most pointed objection in various influential & instructed quarters has been driven in thought from place to place & at last may never exist, yet were the vines carefully unpacked lodged in a tub of earth & the next day carefully put into good soil in the garden, by John Garrison as Hugh was not well enough to go abroad. You will have been glad to hear from Hugh that he has terminated his contract with Mr Prichard very amicably and apparently to the complete satisfaction of both parties; which I look upon as a great credit to Henry Thoreau's diplomacy. Hugh has been quite ill in his bed for about ten days, I think, until three or four days ago. I advised him to inform you at once of his freedom, since you intimated in a letter

151. The copy of H. T. Colebrooke's *Miscellaneous Essays*, 2 vols., London, 1837, now in the Emerson library at the Antiquarian House is that given by Cholmondeley to Thoreau and left by Thoreau to Emerson.

152. A MS charge-book at HCL records that Emerson took out "Cingalese Poems" on Nov. 18 of this year. Probably this was *Yakkun Nottannawa: a Cingalese Poem*, tr. John Callaway, London, 1829, a prose rendition.

153. For this account, which Emerson seems to have remembered gratefully many years later, see May 24, 1831, and Aug. 4, 1873.

154. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

to me that you might be glad of his help in your new works. Of this I did not tell him. He will come now, however, if he comes, with his wife, who will soon also have a child.

I am sorry that my state of things does not allow me to hold him for a year or two. And yet I do not know that he could really serve me. A good deal of criticism always follows his work here. In the spring, 1 April, I am to have Warren's field,[155] two acres east of my house, and have bought a good many pear trees, & shall buy apples, with which to plant it. One of these days, if Lidian comes back to housekeeping, this new land and the woodlot will with the garden perhaps find me employment for a man all the year round. For the poems of which you ask they are printing in stereotype and my proofs have got on as far as 100[156] pages. The compositor thinks they will make about 250 pp. and they ought to appear in daylight by the 15th December.[157]

I beg you to thank Susan for her kindest attention to my grapevines. I am not without good hope that in spite of snow & twenty degrees below zero I shall yet be able to show you good grandsons of your grapes. Meantime I wish to be accurately informed of all your operations in road building & rural architecture[158] in which every one of us here has a lively interest. I wish Willie could draw & send us a map of your Road & new house & garden lot! If he do not, we shall have to come & see for ourselves. You know I am to be a bit of a builder myself on the peak of my woodlot. Mother yesterday spent the day at Mr Ripleys, and we at home.

Bulkeley was with us, & returned today. Waldo.

### To Charles F. Coffin, Concord, December 8, 1846[159]

Concord, 8 Dec. 1846.

Charles F. Coffin, Sec.y.

Dear Sir,

I will endeavour to come to your Lyceum on the day you name, 24 Dec. Thursday. —

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson

155. For the purchase, see the first letter of Feb. 13, 1847.

156. The figure is somewhat doubtful.

157. For publication, see Dec. 29, 1846, to William Emerson.

158. *Cf.* Oct. 26, 1846.

159. MS owned by Goodspeed's Book Shop; ph. in CUL. The address is to Coffin at Lynn, Mass. The *Lynn News*, Dec. 18, 1846, announced that Emerson would lecture on the 24th.

### To George A. Blanchard, Concord, December 20, 1846

[MS listed, without the name of the person addressed, in Anderson Auction Co., Nov. 15, 1907, where it is described as accepting an invitation to lecture in Concord, N. H. Emerson had been invited to lecture at that town in a letter dated Dec. 16, 1846, and signed by George A. Blanchard, Charles Evans, and M. T. Willard, members of a committee. Blanchard wrote again, Concord, N. H., Dec. 29 following, thanking Emerson for his letter of acceptance and asking the subject.]

### To James Elliot Cabot, Concord, December 20, 1846 [160]

Concord 20 Dec. 1846

My dear Sir,

I send you Mundt, in which I see are a few notices of Schelling.[161] It ought to have gone some days ago. I enclose one of Mr Heraud's Prospectuses [162] whereof he sent me a parcel lately. He was the Editor of the " Monthly Magazine " in 1841–2, and is now a writer or associate editor in the London " Athenaeum." This is, I think, the third formal invitation which has come to me to join in an English-*and*-American Journal.[163] Mr H. writes that the first number of his Journal will certainly appear next May, & earnestly solicits a contribution of writing from this side the water, secondly, assistance of capital here, if that can be had. An associate on whom he seems to rely is a Mr Morell, author of a recent " History of Philosophy," published by Pickering in London.[164] Perhaps you will have some pages for him?

Yours

R. W. Emerson.

### To Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Concord? December 23? 1846 [165]

My dear Sir,

The bookseller importunes me to name a friend who will give Mr Channing's book two friendly lines in the critical column of

160. MS owned by Professor Philip Cabot; ph. in CUL. The address is to J. Elliot Cabot, Boston.

161. Pp. 513–524 in Theodor Mundt's *Geschichte der Literatur der Gegenwart*, Berlin, 1842, are on Schelling's philosophy.

162. *Cf.* Jan. 31, 1847, to Heraud.

163. For two earlier notices, see May 30, 1845, and note.

164. J. D. Morell, *An Historical and Critical View of the Speculative Philosophy of Europe in the Nineteenth Century*, London, William Pickering, 1846.

165. MS owned by the Trustees of the Longfellow House, Cambridge; ph. in CUL.

the Boston Courier. I can think of no such person, but am inspired with the felicity of the occasion to challenge your attention to "New England" & "Wachusett," and so on the part of Mr C. I presume to send you the book. Let me not forget to say that it was some melody in the structure of a little piece called the "Journey" & again in "Anna de Rose" which I had in mind to show you some months ago. And so to Fate, but with Love also!

R. W. Emerson.

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The address is to Longfellow at Cambridge. The date is clearly not far from Dec. 23. On Dec. 24 Longfellow noted in his diary that Emerson had sent him a copy of the second series of Channing's poems, which were much like the first and "written in a low tone" (Samuel Longfellow, *Life*, n. d. [c. 1891], II, 68). Three days later Longfellow wrote a letter commenting on Emerson's own new volume as well as on Channing's:

"Cambridge Decr 27
"1846

"My dear Sir,

"Your volume of Poems reached me yesterday, and my wife read it to me last night. It gave us both the highest and keenest delight. A precious volume! The very Gold-coast of Song; along which we sailed, enjoying delicious sights and sounds of Nature and seeing the auriferous streams pour out their tribute into the sea. You take at once a lofty station among

'Olympic bards who *sing*
Divine ideas below.'

A signal triumph awaits you, or rather attends you; and, believe me, among all your admirers none will more heartily rejoice in your success than I shall.

"The only bad thing about it is, that I shall never get my wife to read any more of my poems, you have fascinated her so with yours!

"I have also to thank you for the new volume of Chaning I hope, — indeed I am sure, I am not blind to its many beauties but it does not command the spontaneous admiration which I like so much to feel. Still I see in it much to awaken sympathy; and much that you told me I should find there.

"For yourself, once more, all-hail! Under this roof of ours you will always be read with delight and admiration. Very sincerely

"Henry W Longfellow

"P. S. I forgot to mention that I sent you on Saturday through Munroe a copy of The Estray which I presume will reach you safely.

"Upon comparing Each & All as printed in the Waif with the copy in your volume I find that more was omitted than I had imagined I must have printed from an imperfect copy, though I now forget from what book or paper I took it. I intended to leave out only two lines, & those two, I see, you have not retained — The eight lines about the maid & wife, I have never before seen: & am therefore hardly to be held accountable for the omission —

"H. W. L"

Probably Emerson had written some weeks earlier in reply to the following letter, which, he may have felt, offered him some ground for asking a favor from Longfellow:

### To Thomas J. Allen, Concord? December 26, 1846

[Allen, Boston, Dec. 31, 1846, acknowledges Emerson's letter of the 26th and proposes Feb. 10 instead of the date Emerson had chosen. Probably Emerson had written earlier, too, in reply to Allen's letter of Nov. 23, 1846, asking a lecture for the Mercantile Library Association on Dec. 9 or 16.]

### To Alexander Ireland, Concord, December 28, 1846

[MS listed in American Art Association, Feb.'8–9, 1927; incompletely printed in Ireland, *In Memoriam,* p. 77 (and p. 57).]

### To William Emerson, Concord, December 29, 1846 [166]

Concord 29 December 1846

Dear William,

There came, on Christmas day, to our little dancing roaring company, who had long already made the day & the house their own, a box from New York, that Golconda of children, – a box containing magnificent ninepins for the astonished Eddy, and jewelled pencils, each more beautiful than the other, for Nelly & Edie; creating amidst their delight the gravest doubt which was the best colour, red or gold? & which should at last be resigned to each possessor? Much taste & much virtue were called into exercise, and all perturbations subsided at last into a pure contentment which has proved lasting. Meantime young people & their older Mamma insist that fit acknowledgments should be rendered to those cousins dwelling in Golconda and undoubtedly be-

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" Cambridge Nov 25.

" My dear Sir

" I am about publishing a little volume of poems by different hands, on the same plan as the Waif I should like to include in it, if you have no objection, your Poem entitled The Problem. The only copy I have is that in the Dial. Do you propose to make any changes in it for your volume: and if so can you let me have a corrected copy?

" When you are next in Boston pray take the trouble to step into Johnson's room & see the portrait of Hawthorne he is making for me. In Haste

" Yours faithfully

" Henry W Longfellow "

The little volume of *Poems by William Ellery Channing. Second Series,* bearing Munroe's imprint and the date 1847, and containing the pieces mentioned in the present letter, was belatedly advertised for sale in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Jan. 8, 1847. In the following April *The North American Review* arraigned both Channing and Emerson with their inferiors in an article called " Nine New Poets."

166. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–II are in Cabot, II, 494.

lieved to be the warmest & noblest of cousins. And Ellen, Edith, & Master Edward "his-self" in all the dignity of two years five months, have prayed Mamma to ransack her bookshelf & send the best in their behalf respectively, to Willie, Haven, & Charlie, and I hope the auspicious pacquet will not fail to arrive, wafted with so many loves.

Meantime the seniors here are all in good condition of faith & hope, bearing you & yours the kindest regard. I am free at last of my little white book [167] (of which I sent you a copy, on Christmas day, through the booksellers) and whose fate the readers may now settle. I have just now been writing a new paper on "Eloquence," which interests me, & which I am shortly to read as a lecture to the Mercantile Library in Boston.[168] Other things new have I none, but much work of revision of the old before me, if I do as the booksellers solicit me. [I]I had, however, lately,[I] what I should tell you, [II]an irregular application from different quarters in England, proposing to me to come thither to lecture,[169] &

167. The *Poems* appeared in white binding, with the imprint of "James Munroe and Company" and the date 1847. In the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Dec. 10, 1846, the volume had been advertised as in press and to be ready in about ten days. According to the *Christian Register* of Dec. 26 it was actually published on that day; but the MS *Autobiography* says Dec. 25. On the 29th the *Boston Courier* published a review, calling it "one of the most peculiar and original volumes of poetry ever published in the United States." The critic found not only harshness of diction and obscurity of thought but "exceeding refinement" of sentiment and "piercing subtlety" of imagination.

An unpublished memorandum which is contained in a diary for the years 1839-1842, but which was written at some undetermined later date or dates, throws light on the expense of publishing the *Poems* and on the financial returns (typescript *Journals*). The date of publication is given as Dec. 25, 1846. The bill for printing, here dated Dec. 16, was, it seems, $373.37. The other expenses listed are $51.88 on account of paper and press work for the second edition, Apr., 1847; and, on Dec. 28 of the same year, $8.50 for binding 100 copies of a "New Edit.," $1.50 for "Back titles" to "2d Edit.," and $12.63 to the Boston Foundry "for alterations in the poems." The returns recorded here are $424.45, apparently in July, 1847, from sales of 693 copies; $144.00, in December of that year, from sales of 120 copies; and $22.05, the same month, from sales of 36 copies. Thus the memorandum indicates that one year after publication Emerson had spent $447.88 on his venture and had received a gross return of $590.50. The volume had paid for itself and brought him more than enough to pay for his shoestrings.

168. "Eloquence" was announced by the Mercantile Library Association for Feb. 10, 1847, in the *Daily Evening Transcript* of that date.

169. About the time the second series of *Essays* appeared there was a marked growth of interest in Emerson abroad. John Minter Morgan, in a letter dated London, May 31, 1844, urged him to visit England; Henry G. Wright, who had known the essayist in the days of the Fruitlands experiment, wrote on July 30 of the same year that if he should come to England for "health or happiness" many friends there would welcome him; John Chapman, writing on Aug. 3 following, said that Emerson

promising me engagements to that end in the great towns, if I would. And I understand the Queenie, not Victoria but Lidian, to say that I must go![11]

Yours affectionately
Waldo.

## To Charles Lane, Concord? December 29, 1846

[Acknowledged in Lane, Ham, Surrey, Feb. 3, 1847. *Cf.* a note on Feb. 28, 1847, to Margaret Fuller.]

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would have "abundant occupation and much information to impart" in England. Meantime there had been Sterling and there was still Carlyle, whom Emerson had tried in vain to draw to Concord. And evidence of the readiness of the English to receive him which must have impressed the American was contained in a long and enthusiastic letter of Apr. 3, 1846, from Daniel Jefferson. Jefferson enumerated articles on Emerson that had appeared in British periodicals and asked for a portrait which he might publish with an article he himself was preparing. It was Alexander Ireland who put most effectively the desire, shared, no doubt, by many English readers, that Emerson should undertake a transatlantic lecture tour. Ireland has told how, on the spur of the moment, he scribbled a note of invitation for William Lloyd Garrison to carry to Emerson (*In Memoriam*, pp. 56–57). Emerson replied in his letter of Dec. 28, 1846, promising that he would "cheerfully entertain" Ireland's suggestion.

# 1847

To James Munroe and Company, Concord, January 1, 1847

[MS listed and partly quoted in C. F. Libbie & Co., May 1, 1912; asks that "Mr. Munroe" deliver a copy of Channing's *Poems* and one of Emerson's own *Poems* to the editor of *The Christian Examiner*. Both volumes were duly reviewed by C. A. Bartol in the March number of that magazine. This critic discovered virtues in both authors, but found Channing a little saturnine and unsocial and Emerson, who ranked as the equal of any modern writer for original merit, seriously at fault in his religious views.]

To ————————, Concord, January 1, 1847

[MS listed and partly quoted in Anderson Auction Co., Nov. 15, 1907; apparently about a lecture engagement.]

To James Munroe and Company, Concord, January 2, 1847

[MS listed in C. F. Libbie & Co., Jan. 6–10, 1891, where it is described as about the distribution of copies of Emerson's *Poems*.]

To Mary Moody Emerson, Concord? January *c.* 20? 1847

[Mary Moody Emerson, South Waterford, Me., Jan. 23, 1847, acknowledges a letter received from her nephew in the last mail and thanks him for his *Poems*. Other letters from his aunt dated Feb. 27, 1847; Mar. 21 (endorsed 1847 by Emerson); and May 9, 1847, make it seem probable that he wrote to her again during these months. Her letters were about reading and business matters.]

To William Emerson, Concord, January 28, 1847[1]

Concord, 28 January, 1847.

Dear William,

Mother has been suffering for a week past with an attack of Erysipelas, which, though sudden & somewhat violent at first, has rapidly yielded to medicine, to her good constitution, & to the best

1. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

offices of Elizabeth Hoar, who has constituted herself her nurse. She seems today almost well again.

This morning I received a letter from a committee of students in the "University of the city of New York," inviting me to deliver their annual Oration in June before the Literary Societies. Before I reply to them,[2] will you be good enough to tell me what you know of the College, — particularly whether it be a college, & not a school; whether the students are of the usual age & acquirements of our New England Colleges? — There is no need to mention their application to me. The signers of the invitation are William Lock Brown, John Sedgwick, & C. C. Moore.[3]

We are, for the rest, very well. the children in the finest spirits I wish we could step across into Staten Island, to & fro, as we do to Mrs Brown's. With love to Susan & the children

Yours
Waldo.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, January 31, 1847

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

## To John Abraham Heraud, Concord, January 31, 1847[4]

Concord, 31 January, 1847.

Mr John A. Heraud,

Dear Sir,

I received your letter & the accompanying programmes of the "Half Yearly Review." I have spread them abroad among such persons here, as I thought would like to know the design. Very direct aid in any way I think it would be sanguine to

2. Probably Emerson wrote an unfavorable reply, which I have not seen. The address before the Philomathean and Eucleian Societies of the University of the City of New York on June 29 was delivered by the Hon. William L. Dayton (*New-York Daily Tribune,* June 30, 1847). New York University had been chartered in 1831 under the name Emerson uses.

3. All three are listed in the *Biographical Catalogue of . . . the University of the City of New York,* 1894, as members of the class of 1847.

4. MS owned by Mr. Owen D. Young; ph. in CUL. Heraud, already known to Emerson through English friends and mentioned in earlier letters, had written to him from London on Nov. 28, 1846, and sent some copies of a circular, he said, of *The Half-yearly Review,* which would certainly appear the following May. Heraud thought that he and Emerson had alike been the means of gaining a wide acceptance for transcendental doctrines. He hoped Emerson could assist in raising money for the new magazine.

promise you. There is no reason to expect in Boston any other pecuniary support to the work, than simply a number of subscribers for single copies: and as for aid in the composition of the book itself, it will not be very easy to draw our few writers into any engagement with what may seem to them a distant enterprize. And yet, perhaps I ought to say, this will be in the power of the Journal to effect. One or two numbers of a paper of a truly superior tone, belonging equally to all countries, may easily persuade men of genius that it alone speaks their native language. But we have very few writers, as yet, to add to the few already known to you. Elizur Wright, now the editor of a very successful daily paper in Boston, called " the Chronotype," [5] has a great deal of talent with courage & catholicity. Mr H. D. Thoreau is a man of profound & symmetrical nature, who, if he lives, will certainly be heard from in this country, & I think in yours also. Mr Alcott may never succeed, as he has not hitherto succeeded, in giving a written expression to his original & religious thinking; but he may be reckoned on as a sure ally of everything great & good. You must not fail to talk with Margaret Fuller, on the subject, who is well acquainted with the best people in New York, as well as Boston, — & is the most eloquent & independent of women. I am also acquainted with a few young men of whom I entertain high hopes. For myself, I do not like to promise any very efficient aid; for, though I may easily contribute a paper or two, as the work goes on, yet my papers, when good for anything, have no timeliness, and I am the worst periodical writer.

Meantime, I shall not fail to keep the programme before such friends as I shall meet from time to time, &, if your purpose is really to go into effect, next spring, I shall be glad to be informed of it, & will send you the names of such subscribers as I can, & more aid by word & deed, if more arrives.

Respectfully, Your friend &
servant,

R. W. Emerson.

I requested Mr Chapman of Newgate Street to send you a volume of my Poems, [6] — which I hope he did not neglect.

5. For further comment on this paper, which had first appeared in 1846, see the letters of Dec. 3 and 10, 1850. Elizur Wright was editor till 1849.

6. Heraud wrote, Mar. 25, 1847, acknowledging the *Poems* and the present letter. At Manchester and Liverpool, he said, he learned that Emerson was expected in England — " Right glad shall we be to welcome you." For the projected journal, it seemed well to defer publication till the following year.

## To L. Withington, Concord? *c.* January? 1847?

[Withington, Newbury, Mass., Mar. 2, 1847, says he should have answered Emerson's letter earlier and comments on the volume of *Poems,* which Emerson had apparently given him. Withington was a Congregational minister at Newbury (*Loring's Massachusetts Register* for 1847, p. 126).]

## To Rufus Wilmot Griswold, Concord? February? *c.* 10? 1847

[Griswold, New York, Feb. 15, 1847, replies to "a letter received from you by way of Philadelphia," and explains why Emerson's portrait was not returned to him long ago, with twenty-five or fifty copies of it. The picture was probably Sartain's engraving from Mrs. Hildreth reproduced in *The Prose Writers of America,* 1847, opposite p. 440. Apparently Griswold had kept the original for some two years or more (*cf.* May 9, 1845).]

## To William Emerson, Concord, February 13, 1847[7]

Concord, 13 February, 1847

Dear William,

I have been driven lately into a scrutiny of my accounts to make myself ready for some approaching payments and as usually happens on such investigations do not find my results perfectly gratifying. The immediate occasion of my counting is the necessity of paying on 1 April next $500. for the field east of my house which, after some years talking about, I agreed with Warren last year that I would buy during this,[8] and, a month ago, I received the deed[9] & gave my note payable on the 1 April. But I have other debts; $450. to the Concord Bank, for one; & the discovery, too, not quite unexpected, that our present system of boarding[10] costs me more than did our own housekeeping. Another circumstance occurred last year, which makes a part of my affair, and which I do not know that I have communicated. Aunt

7. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. *Cf.* a note on the second letter of this date to William Emerson.

8. *Cf.* Nov. 27, 1846.

9. A copy of Cyrus Warren's deed to Emerson, signed Jan. 6, 1847, and acknowledged on May 3 of the same year, is now part of the MS records of the Register of the Probate Court at East Cambridge, Mass. This document shows, like the present letter, that Emerson paid $500 and it describes the land he purchased as three acres "on the turnpike so called" and extending from Emerson's own land "Easterly on the said Turnpike," with the Mill Brook as its southern boundary. This was, then, the land described in later letters as the "heater piece," and the same land on which the building of the Antiquarian Society now stands.

10. See Apr. 16, 1846.

Mary, in some of her fancy-practice in real estate, sold a valuable part of her farm for a trifle to a Mr Matthewson, a jeweller in Providence.[11] Mr Robert Haskins who, you know, always fancied the farm was his, & acted on the fancy, found himself embarrassed by this new owner. He came to me for help — and in reply to all his unintelligible histories, I told him I had no cent to give him, but, that a good farm need not be lost for want of a hundred dollars, I would borrow for him a hundred dollars on his bringing to me Gore Ripley's assurance that there was security from the farm for that money.

Gore looked into it, & immediately came out here to tell me that he found Aunt Mary was owner, & had " got herself into a scrape " by the Matthewson dealing, & that he Mathewson must be bought off by all means. I told him that I would try to raise the money necessary for the purpose, but must borrow it, & he must secure it on the land. He negociated with Matthewson, who demanded 400. for what I believe cost him 25 dollars at first, and I, at last, paid, in all, $325.00, for which I hold Aunt Mary's note & a mortgage. Again, in the course of the last year, Aunt Mary wrote me,[12] that she had borrowed of somebody 25.00, a year or two ago, & given a deed of one acre, (a deed not acknowledged or recorded, I believe, but meant as a memorandum to the parties) as payment. She wished me to pay this debt, & have the amount added to my claim on her estate. This also I have done; paid $29.00, & have or am to have some sort of security. But these dealings with Aunt Mary, you are aware, withdraw just so much money as they involve, entirely from present use; as she pays no interest in these years. Of course it appears in that balance of 450. against me at the Concord Bank.

Well I carried my results to Abel Adams & told him I should want money in April & must sell stock though unwillingly. Abel talked the matter over & inquired about my account with W. E. & G. F. and, on my saying, that you had proposed to make a transfer & a partial settlement (?) within a year or some short time, — he advised that I should write you the facts & inquire whether you could not without inconvenience reduce 5800 (is it not?) [13] to 5000 by the 1 April.[14]

11. *The Providence Directory* of 1844 lists three jewelers named Mathewson.

12. In her letter of Sept. 22, endorsed 1846.

13. See a note on Oct. 3, 1846.

14. William Emerson, Feb. 17, 1847 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), promises the desired sum by Apr. 1 and adds that Folsom has paid $3000 on the Staten Island account but only on condition that the money be spent for improvements on the property.

I have the expectation of some advantage from the sale of my new book, but not to any solid purpose before next January. So you shall send me your counsel in this matter, and if what I suggest can not be done without straits & hurts, do not attempt it, as I can certainly get the money through Mr Adams.

Your affectionate brother
Waldo

## To William Emerson, Concord? February 13, 1847 [15]

13 Feb.

Dear William,

Inside you have a tedious business detail which perhaps I ought to save you but now that I have written it shall go. We are all uneasy to hear the ill account you give of Susan. The mild weather will have already touched your shrubbery, &, we hope, helped & healed her. At this moment, I know not what to say to your perplexities concerning Willie. The best teacher of languages in existence is said to be Dr Kraitsir [16] in Boston. But how much more goes to make the teacher of a boy! I will keep my eyes open, however. Mother is very well & sends all love Lidian is in Boston for a few days at her brothers. W.

## To Abby Larkin Adams, Concord, February 22, 1847 [17]

Concord, Monday
Morn, 22 Febʸ.

Dear Abby, I return, with many thanks, Legaré. Is it possible that I left a couple of papers in the front chamber, the other day? one, a letter of Carlyle to me; the other a tax-bill! I carried both in my pocket to Boston, & did not bring them home. If you can find them, will you roll

15. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The leaf containing this letter was used as a wrapper for the first letter of this date.

16. Charles D. Kraitsir, teacher, appears in *Adams's Boston Directory*, 1847; and his school is advertised in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Apr. 1, 1847.

17. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Of the years in which Feb. 22 fell on Monday, only 1847 and 1858 would fit the reference to the children. The superscription, to Abby Adams, on the same sheet with the letter proper would indicate a date earlier than 1858. "Legaré" is probably the *Writings of Hugh Swinton Legaré*, 1845–1846. In *Journals*, VII, 243 (Feb. 15, 1847), Emerson notes good things in Legaré on Demosthenes, to whom a chapter of the *Writings* is devoted.

them up & send them by the bearer. Eddie & Edie are both sick; — I hope, better, but the boy very cross.

Ever yours

R. W. E.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, February 24, 1847 [18]

Concord, 24 February,
1847.

My dear Carlyle,

Mr Francis Cunningham of Milton, near Boston, who goes to England [19] on his way to the Continent, asks an introduction to you, that he may not go through London without seeing your face, though his short stay there, & the invalid condition of a valued friend in his party, should give him no second opportunity with you. Mr Cunningham is an amiable & accomplished man, who had part of his education in Germany, & knew Bettine von Arnim, at Berlin, in his youth, and has been a translator of Neander — I believe — for our students here. You will find him acquainted with our best people, & with your own friends here.

Ever yours,

R. W. Emerson.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, February 27, 1847 [20]

Concord 27 February 1847

My dear Carlyle,

I enclose a bill of Exchange for £17 sterling, payable on sight by Harnden & Co, which cost here $85.00, & with which you will credit the account of Little & Brown, as, I believe, I wrote you already.[21]

I called, using this occasion — on E. P. Clark [22] of the New England

18. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

19. According to the *Boston Daily Advertiser*, Mar. 2, 1847, the Rev. F. Cunningham and wife were passengers on the "Cambria," which cleared for Liverpool on Mar. 1. *The Unitarian Annual Register, for the Year 1846* lists a Francis Cunningham, presumably the same person, among aged or invalid clergymen without parishes.

20. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

21. In Jan. 31, 1847, to Carlyle.

22. *Cf.* Aug. 26, 1847.

Bank, the other day, to learn whether he had brought those ancient accounts confided to him to any audition & result. No; — the Bank President had been in Europe, crowding Clark with additional duties: and now has given way to a new President [23] who still leaves the duties with him; & the intrinsic difficulties of a bookseller's account, — which, it seems, are proverbial in Banking Houses; — And Nichols the some time partner of Munroe had special labyrinths of his own. — And Clark listened readily to the first proposition of returning all the papers to me — And here they are come faithfully back, without a single summary, note or figure, that I can discern of my analyst & auditor after so many years!

I asked him if he had any report concerning your late books from Wiley & Putnam? No; Nor any letter from Mr Carlyle ever on that subject. That, I told him, I thought he should have. And I think you had better clothe his hands & warm his heart with an express authority to audit Wiley & Putnam's accounts with T. C. Write to him, I mean, & ask him directly what you bade me ask him, to charge himself with this friendly office. I am sure he would take it in the kindest part, and as he would have the beginning of the account, would find nothing burdensome. He is so much a man of business that he cannot move in the matter without such an order; & it seems best, unless your direct dealings with W. & P. in London, have shown you better ways.

You should be visited about the time of receiving this, by Mr Cunningham, an early college acquaintance of mine,[24] though my junior, an educated & travelled gentleman, who has begged an introduction to you, whilst, he says he shall make the least demands on your time. I believe his journeying now is mainly for the benefit of his wife's sister Miss Forbes who is an invalid. . Her brothers are great Canton merchants at Boston,[25] and the women excellent people. I am sorry I have neglected to inform myself, but Cunningham obviously wished an introduction for himself only.

23. *The Massachusetts Register* for 1846 names Philip Marett as president of the New England Bank, while *Loring's Massachusetts Register* for 1847 lists Thomas Lamb in that office, with Charles Nichols as paying teller.

24. *Cf.* Feb. 24, 1847. Cunningham graduated at Harvard in 1825.

25. Cunningham had married Mary A. Forbes, sister of the J. M. Forbes who appears frequently in later letters (*Letters and Recollections of John Murray Forbes*, ed. Sarah Forbes Hughes, 1899, II, 254). Both the *Boston Daily Advertiser* and the *Daily Evening Transcript* include in the passenger list of the "Cambria" a "Miss Forbes," but do not give her initials or first name. Mr. W. Cameron Forbes thinks it probable that the reference here is to Emma P. Forbes, though it may possibly be to her sister Margaret.

Margaret Fuller writes in good heart from Paris,[26] where she has a great deal to learn, & only one serious impediment, that she cannot yet speak French glibly enough for her rapid purposes. She says, she shall not return to England for a year. My friend Thoreau has written & printed in " Grahams Magazine here an Article on Carlyle[27] which he will send to you as soon as the second part appears in a next number, & which you must not fail to read. You are yet to read a good American book made by this Thoreau, & which is shortly to be printed, he says.[28] Your friend,

R. W. Emerson

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, February 28, 1847[29]

Concord, 28 February, 1847

Dear Margaret,

That you are very generous & noble, that your great love makes your memory tenacious of all it ever held, though no news to you, or to me, — is the best theme I have had in my mind lately. Only day before yesterday I found at Munroe's your parcel, book, letter,[30] medal, & letter to E. H.; which precious gifts were appropriated & distributed with care & joy. I am contented with all except your hasting from Paris. It is too plain that you should conquer their speech first, which is to unlock such jewelled cabinets for you. They have translated modern civilization into conversation, and our queen of discourse cannot go by such a magazine until she has exhausted it. To be sure you are not properly in Paris until you speak to them as you speak to us. There is hardly any other to whom I should think Paris had such values. Then you will not go to England for a year. What spacious travel is then before you? I have had new letters from Mr Ireland concerning Lectures in England.[31] But I shall not be very forward. I

26. Perhaps in one of her letters of Dec., 1846, or Jan., 1847, incompletely printed in *Memoirs*, Boston, II, 188 ff.

27. " Thomas Carlyle and his Works," *Graham's* for Mar. and Apr., 1847.

28. For Thoreau's expectation of early publication of *A Week*, *cf.* Feb. 28, 1847, to Margaret Fuller.

29. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I was printed by Townsend Scudder III in *The American Scholar*, IV, 332–333 (summer, 1935); II is in Cabot, II, 495. The address is to Margaret Fuller in care of Brown, Shipley, & Co., Liverpool.

30. Possibly her letter to Emerson dated Paris, Jan. 18, 1847, partly printed in *Memoirs*, Boston, II, 201–202.

31. *Cf.* a note on Feb. 28, 1847, to Ireland.

am not young enough now to have any projects of literary propagandism there, and do not wish to collect an audience with pains, or that others should for me:[I] and shall only accept very satisfactory invitations. So perhaps I shall wait for you at home. Certainly, you send me surprising news in my fame for one day in Paris.[32] It seems in kings' houses they are sadly poor.

There are certain great advantages in travelling when one's temper & habit of society opens all turnpike & palace gates. Good understanding with the best of the world is itself a chief end of life; and, I doubt not, the Muses & the Fates will endorse your passport. But for *me* if great gifts were in store, the Genius, I am sure, would point the other way, & send me into the mountains for protection, as one to whom almost every social influence was excessive & hurtful. The world is in good hands & the results are secured, it can afford to wait long for them, & human life is cheap, or I should not dare to postpone for a day the sternest self-dedication. [II]As I manage now, I who have never done anything, never shall do anything.[II] There was a comico pathetic experience lately. I read my lecture on "Eloquence" in Boston,[33] and afterwards, the same evening, went to Miss Peabody's, to meet Anna Ward, Caroline, Ellen Hooper, Sarah Clarke, Anna Lowell; Anna Hooper; Mary Eustis; Miss Gardiner, W. H Channing, Theo. Parker. What an Egyptian party; on this side of Styx too! It did not seem to have occurred to any of the company the melancholy absurdity of the meeting, until they were fairly confronted, & then they glided out like so many ghosts. . Caroline told me, they agreed too that all my lecture was old! — And I have not yet set my house in order & escaped to Mount Katahdin. — Sam Ward came lately & spent a night with me, & we parted very good friends. Edward Bangs is the only new acquaintance [34] I have made for a great while: And I think I have told you once of him. Charles K. N. wrote me a letter lately, the only spark of life he has shown for long. Henry Thoreau's paper on Carlyle is printed in Graham's Magazine: and his Book, "Excursion on Concord & Merrimack rivers" will soon be ready. Admirable, though Ellery rejects it altogether. Mrs Ripley & other members of the opposition came down the other night to hear Henry's Account of his housekeeping at Walden

32. Possibly in her letter cited above.

33. See a note on Dec. 29, 1846, to William Emerson.

34. *Cf.* Nov. 2, 1847. Emerson may have written Margaret Fuller about Bangs in an earlier letter now lost. There are many evidences of several letters to her in 1846 and 1847 that I have not found.

Pond, which he read as a lecture,[35] and were charmed with the witty wisdom which ran through it all. — Ellery has written nothing lately except a pretty Spanish poem " The Xebec," but he is in very good spirits, & makes deliberate evening visits to Miss Mackay, to Mrs Barlow, to Mrs Brown, & once to Mrs Ripley. He comes here every Saturday P. M. and is highly valued. I have sent a copy of his book to John Chapman but have not heard again yet. Chapman's edition of my Poems came to me at the same time with your parcel the other day, and is a magazine of vexations. All kinds of hateful errata abound. The book, too, seems still-born in London, for any sign I can find in the Journals.

Our politics here at home have a gleam of sunshine lately, only from the apparent gain of the Freedom side in the demonstrations at Washington. For, a few weeks since, it looked, in Massachusetts, as if a Convention to agitate Dissolution would really be held shortly, and as if all thoughtful men were brooding it, & taking their parts. And perhaps it will look so again next week. For the last actions of the expiring congress should be decisive of much.

My Mother is obviously very heartily pleased to be so beautifully remembered by you, & sends the kindest thanks and good wishes. Lidian also rejoices in every happiness of yours. The children have all been sick lately, & all are convalescent, & will all love you, each in their degree & time. — I only learned yesterday P. M. that the Cambria's mail is to close Monday Morn. at 10,[36] & I fear my messenger may not be able to arrive at Post Office in time. You will write for the Howitts, & Chambers.[37] Lane wrote by last steamer to ask me from a Mr Linton to write or to engage writers for the other People's Journal.[38] I have not

35. The MS records of the Concord Lyceum (owned by the Concord Free Public Library) show that on Feb. 10, 1847, " A Lecture was delivered by H. D. Thoreau . . . Subject — History of Himself," and that on the 17th he again appeared, his subject being " Same as last week."

36. He may have read the announcement in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Feb. 27.

37. The first volume of *Howitt's Journal of Literature and Popular Progress*, edited by William and Mary Howitt, appeared at London in 1847. *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*, begun by William Chambers in 1832, had attained an enormous circulation for its time. I know of no contribution by Margaret Fuller to either of these popular periodicals.

38. Charles Lane wrote from Ham, Surrey, Feb. 3, 1847, telling of William Howitt's withdrawal from the editorship of *The People's Journal* and asking contributions for that periodical at the suggestion of " Mr. Linton, artist & poet " — probably William James Linton, the English engraver, author, and political radical, who later migrated to America. Linton had also suggested that Emerson ask Bryant, Longfellow, Whittier, and others for contributions at twenty-five shillings a page.

been very active. Why cannot some good person here in America ask you & me to write. I only wish now that they may pay you royally. May all your hours be serene prays your friend

Waldo E.

## To Alexander Ireland, Concord, February 28, 1847[39]

Concord, 28 February, 1847

My dear Sir,

I owe you new thanks for your friendly & faithful attention to the affair of Lectures which you have put me on. But I had not anticipated so prompt an execution of the project. as you now suggest.

39. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The MS here reproduced is endorsed by Emerson " Rough draught of letter to A. Ireland Esq Feb. 1847." The discrepancies between this and the text printed by Ireland in *In Memoriam,* pp. 57–58, doubtless from the letter as actually sent, are too numerous to be noted here. Ireland had written a few weeks earlier:

" Manchester. Examiner Office.
" Feby 3. 1847.

" My dear Sir,

" I was glad to receive your Letter of 28th December, & still more glad to think that the time may not be far distant when we may meet again — How many worlds of thought & experience, of joy & sorrow have not both of us passed through since August 1833! I married in 1839 & death took away my companion in 1842, & I am now left with two children — a strange combination of circumstances brought me here 3 years since, where I am surrounded by kind friends, & I feel that it is in my power now more than ever before, to do some good to my fellow-creatures — I have the management & co-editorship of two newspapers here — I had the pleasure to make the acquaintance lately of Miss Fuller & Mr & Mrs Spring.

" Now as regards your coming here, you may rely upon an engagement in Liverpool from The Mechanics Institute there, a very important & useful educational institution, the Principal of which is my intimate & dear friend, Dr Hodgson, & it is highly probable that the Athenaeum here will give you an engagement. At all events, I can guarantee you a course of Lectures in Manchester either in that Institution, or in another way — I have not the slightest hesitation in assuring you, that, if you decide to come, & say at what time you will be in England & how long you mean to remain with us, you may safely count upon a great many engagements in Yorkshire, Lancashire, & the Metropolis — probably at least a dozen — We have a circle of Literary Institutions in Yorkshire & Lancashire, & many of these will eagerly have Lectures from you. First of all, fix the time, & I will take care to let it be known to the proper parties that you are coming. I should say that your visit should be either at once, so as to be in England in April, or that you delay it till September. from June to September would not be a good time for lecturing — but it might suit you to spend the summer here & see the country, & commence your campaign after harvest — If you let me know your wishes & intentions, I shall aid you with my advice & services; & always gladly; be assured of that. I should like to know also what is the rate of remuneration you receive when you lecture to Institutions in Bos-

Certainly, I cannot think of it for April. For September — I will think of it, but cannot at present fix any thing.

I really have not the means of forming an opinion of the expediency of such an undertaking It would be very displeasing to me to make a visit of literary propagandism in England All my impulses to work of that kind would rather employ me at home. It would be still more painful to me to put upon a few friends the office of collecting, an audience for me by puffing & coaxing. At the same time, it would be very agreeable to me to accept any invitation to read lectures from societies or a number of friendly individuals who sympathized with my studies, But although I possess many decisive tokens of interest in my pursuits & way of thinking from sundry British men & women they are widely sundered persons, & my belief is that in no one city unless it were London could I find any numerous company to whom my name was favorably known. So that you see my project requires great frankness on your part. You must not suffer your own friendly feelings to give the smallest encouragement to the design.

In regard to the remuneration of Lectures here, we have all rates as we have all merits. I have formerly read courses of Lectures on my own account to classes collected by advertisement in the newspapers: and for a course of ten lectures I once received, after the payment of all expenses, 576 dollars; or, 57 dollars for each lecture.[40] That is the highest payment I ever received. From the Boston Lyceum, last winter, I received 50 dollars for each lecture of a course of seven; by a previous agreement.[41] And the Lyceum was no loser, as I was told. These are city prices. I often read lectures to our country Lyceums, which usually pay their Lecturer $10.00, & his travelling expenses.

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ton &c. Hoping to hear from you soon, & wishing you health & peace, I am yours sincerely & faithfully

" Alex^r Ireland

" A Mr George Dawson, whose Lectures you may have heard of on Carlyle, Spirit of The Age ' Faust, Faustus & Festus ' ' Wordsworth & Coleridge ' Pythagoras, George Fox, Swedenborg, Böhme, Mary Wollstonecroft, Michael Angelo, Beethoven &c has delivered a course of Lectures in Manchester, & perhaps twenty other courses elsewhere within 12 months. His usual remuneration is £5– for each Lecture — but for his last course here, he received £10. per Lecture. Of course, if you lecture on your own account, you would receive much more — but it is more desireable to lecture to Institutions.

" A 1 "

40. Probably Emerson means the course of ten lectures in 1837–1838, which resulted, according to *Journals*, IV, 393, in a net profit of $568.

41. That is, for the course given in the winter of 1845–1846. For negotiations with the Boston Lyceum, see the letters of Aug. 26 and Sept. 5, 1845, to Coffin.

If I were younger, it would give me great pleasure to come to England & collect my own audience as I have done at home here, & I have that confidence in my favorite topics that I should undertake the affair without the least distrust. But perhaps my ambition does not give to a success of this kind that importance it has had for me. At all events in England I incline rather to take than give the challenge.

### To Charles Lane, Concord? February 28, 1847

[Acknowledged in Lane's letter from Ham, Surrey, Apr. 3, 1847. Lane tells of his wish to receive his books and reports English literary news.]

### To Frederick S. Stallknecht, Concord? March 7, 1847

[Acknowledged in Stallknecht, New York, Mar. 10, 1847, about Harro Harring; also mentioned in Mar. 7, 1847, to William Emerson.]

### To Henry James, Sr., Concord? March 7? 1847

[Mentioned in letters of Mar. 7 and 13, both to William Emerson.]

### To Harro Harring, Concord? March 7, 1847

[Mentioned in Mar. 7, 1847, to William Emerson; probably the letter tardily acknowledged in Harring, New York, Mar. 29, 1847.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, March 7, 1847 [42]

Concord, 7 March, 1847.

Dear William,

Mrs Follen sent me a few days ago a letter from Margaret Fuller introducing Harro Harring to me. and accompanied it

42. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. Eliza Cabot Follen, Cambridge, Mar. 2, 1847, said she was sending Emerson a manuscript and a book of Harro Harring's together with a letter she had written to that unhappy author. She added her opinion that *Dolores* was insufferably dull and that it was time to tell Harring so. Apparently she inclosed the following letter from Margaret Fuller:

" My dear friend, This note will be presented to you by Harro Harring of whom I have often spoken to you. He can tell you of his Scandinavian *runes* in honor of toiling Gods and Heroes, while you on your side may breathe on him a calmness from your great doctrine of Compensation

" Ever yours
" S. M. Fuller.

" London
" 30th Octr 46."

Emerson's desire to see that Harring received just treatment from publishers and lawyers resulted in several later letters.

with other letters & papers of various persons respecting Harro: He himself meantime remains in New York city.

It seems his is a very sad case. He wrote a novel & by the assistance of Saml Ward of N. Y. contracted with the Harpers to print it: at much expense he got it translated into English, copied, &c. and some *foreign* or some religious influence came in & they sent the MS back to him. He prosecuted them, being assured that he could recover $1000 or the like damages & in his absence at London Stallknecht & D. Graham Esq his counsel [43] compounded the matter with the Harpers & according to H. H. paid themselves & gave him nothing. Meantime he published the book by other hands [44] but the offended Harpers have effectually prevented any chance of sale for it in N. Y. or any city where they have correspondence, & no paper dares mention the book. Then his publishers charge him enormous commissions *45* per cent for vending it, *& the cost of advertising:* The outside of trade prices being in all my experience 33 per cent, which includes advertising. If the book were of great popularity, it could prosper notwithstanding this: but it is said to be rather heavy for a novel. I broke into it last night & night before, & prospered far better than could be expected; thought it much better than many novels I have seen, as it had certain real objects, which appeared, & interested me — mainly, the association of the friends of freedom in all countries, — & his theories of love & marriage. Now the stereotype plates are likely to become the property of the publisher for a small sum for which they are mortgaged.

In this trouble Harro sends to Boston hoping that some publisher there will save his book. I am going to Boston tomorrow; or if not, the next day, to see if any thing can be done — though the chances are greatly against any publisher's meddling with it; but perhaps we can get a number of copies of the existing edition subscribed for which sell at 1.25 bound & 1.00 in paper. Meantime I have written a letter to Stallknecht whom I once knew a little; & to Henry James that he may

43. *Doggett's New-York City Directory* for 1847–1848 lists Frederick S. Stallknecht and David Graham, both lawyers but at separate addresses.

44. The first instalment of *Dolores: a Novel of South America* bore the imprint: "New York: Published by the Author. Montevideo: Libreria Hernandez. 1846." It ended in the middle of a sentence. The second number bore the imprint of Marrenner, Lockwood, & Co., of New York. A so-called "Second Stereotype Edition" was "Published by the Author," at New York, and bore the date 1847. In his "Introductory Letter" to the 1846 edition, the author stated that publication had been delayed by a censor who declared that the work, though evincing decided ability, was by no means orthodox.

give the Northman good counsel against the booksellers. I have hesitated to send him to you having a little suspicion that though a man of much accomplishment talent, & adventure, he may be egotistic & boring, but man of letters foreigner & friendless as he is, and standing or believing himself to stand as a sufferer for freedom & conscience, he seems entitled to much mercy. In my farther correspondence with him, — I have just written him a note to acknowledge the receipt of M. F.'s letter,[45] — I may have occasion to refer him to you for needful advice, or, possibly, as my banker for small amounts. So I thought I would send you this long story of his present state, and, if you wish, you can read A. H. Everett's sketch of his life in the Democratic Review Oct. & Nov. 1844 [46] His address is *91 Canal Street*

I received your letter in reply to mine [47] concerning money. And am glad you are not scared. I should not however have bought my land until another year, had I foreseen the inconveniences of it. I am not without a prospect that my woodlot by Walden Pond will get an increased value soon; as Mr Tudor has invaded us with a gang of Irishmen & taken 10,000 tons of ice from the Pond in the last weeks.[48] If this continues, he will spoil my lot for purposes for which I chiefly value it, & I shall be glad to sell it. We are all pretty well. The children who have all been sick, are quieting their coughs. Mrs Brown is ill with a lung fever but is relieved in some degree. George Bradford postpones his European journey till June thinking to go then with Hedge.[49]

Mother wishes you to send back Mr Ralph Haskins's Account,[50] which we sent you for some information last summer. Mother & Lidian send love to Susan & to the boys as well as to you. I also.

Yours, Waldo.

45. Of Oct. 30, 1846, printed above.

46. In *The United States Magazine, and Democratic Review* for Oct., Nov., and Dec., 1844.

47. The two letters of Feb. 13, 1847.

48. *The Concord Freeman,* Feb. 19, 1847, reported that Tudor's fifty or sixty men were cutting from eight hundred to a thousand tons of ice a day at Walden Pond.

49. Bradford did not go so soon (*cf.* June 29, 1847). For Hedge's sailing, see June 2, 1847.

50. William Emerson, Mar. 19 and 20, 1847 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), seems to show that this was an account of the estate belonging to the Haskins heirs.

## To Evert Augustus Duyckinck, Concord, March 12, 1847 [51]

Concord, 12 March, 1847.

E. A Duyckinck, Esq.

Dear Sir,

Mr Henry D. Thoreau of this town has just completed a book of extraordinary merit, which he wishes to publish. It purports to be the account of " An Excursion on the Concord & Merrimack Rivers," which he made some time ago in company with his brother, in a boat built by themselves. The book contains about the same quantity of matter for printing as Dickens's Pictures of Italy.[52] I have represented to Mr Thoreau, that his best course would undoubtedly be, to send the book to you, to be printed by Wiley & Putnam, that it may have a good edition & wide publishing.

This book has many merits. It will be as attractive to *lovers of nature,* in every sense, that is, to naturalists, and to poets, as Isaak Walton.[53] It will be attractive to scholars for its excellent literature, & to all thoughtful persons for its originality & profoundness. The narrative of the little voyage, though faithful, is a very slender thread for such big beads & ingots as are strung on it. It is really a book of the results of the studies of years.

Would you like to print this book into your American Library? [54] It is quite ready, & the whole can be sent you at once. It has never yet been offered to any publisher. If you wish to see the MS. I suppose Mr Thoreau would readily send it to you. I am only desirous that you should propose to him good terms, & give his book the great advantages of being known which your circulation ensures.

Mr Thoreau is the author of an Article on Carlyle, now printed & printing in Graham's last & coming Magazine,[55] & of some papers in the Dial; but he has done nothing half so good as his new book. He is well known to Mr Hawthorn also.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

51. MS owned by the New York Public Library; ph. in CUL. The address is to Duyckinck in care of Wiley & Putnam, New York.

52. *Pictures from Italy,* published by Wiley & Putnam with the date 1846.

53. *Cf.* July 16, 1846.

54. Duyckinck replied under date of Mar. 15 following that he would be glad to read Thoreau's MS and offer his advice. Thoreau wrote Emerson, Nov. 14, 1847 (*The Writings,* VI, 139), that Wiley & Putnam and other publishers had declined to take *A Week* at any risk to themselves, though any of them would publish it at the author's own expense.

55. See Feb. 27, 1847.

### To Harro Harring, Concord? March *c.* 12? 1847

[Mentioned in Mar. 13, 1847, as a letter urging Harring to send copies of his book to James Munroe & Co.]

### To Harro Harring, Concord? March 13? 1847

[Mentioned in Mar. 13, 1847, as a note for William Emerson to carry to Harring, probably an introduction.]

### To William Emerson, Concord, March 13, 1847 [56]

Concord, 13 March, 1847

Dear William,

On the day on which I dispatched my lamentable history of Harro of Denmark [57] — came Susan's letter to Mother, & the admired epistles of the Young Staten Island, and your own note conveying the surprising information that an old lawyer had sold his house off his head; [58] with a most diplomatic & tantalizing suppression of all those particulars of cause, circumstance, time, & equivalent, — which our parietal community were at once so eager to know. Well I doubt not you are contented with your exchange. And when the new house is built, we shall be.

Once more for Denmark & philanthropy. I believe I shall have to ask you to call on Mr Harring if you can. I decided at first to write to Henry James, as he is a man of leisure, on whom I had good claims, and I wrote out especially the grievance of Harro's booksellers Marrener, Lockwood, & Co,[59] and prayed James to see them, & insist on reasonable terms. But, inquiring for James's address on Monday, in Boston, I learned that he spends this winter in Albany; does not go to N. Y. at all, until summer. So I withheld my letter.[60] I have talked with Munroe & Co in Boston. They say that if M. L. & Co should sell many of his books on terms of " 45 per cent commission, & he to pay advertisements," he would run deeply in debt to them. I have written to him to urge his sending 400 copies of his book to J. Munroe & Co. & they are to do the

56. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

57. Letter of Mar. 7, 1847, to William Emerson.

58. William Emerson explained in his letter of Mar. 19 and 20, 1847 (owned by Dr. Haven Emerson) . He was constrained to sell his cottage before his new home on the hill was ready because by selling at once he could make sure of a desirable neighbor in the buyer.

59. See a note on Mar. 7, 1847, to William Emerson.

60. Letter of Mar. 7? 1847.

best they can for him. But I should be glad to have you give him counsel on this extortion of M. L. & Co — if you can & will.

I wrote a letter in his behalf to Mr Stallknecht, who has written me a very good reply,[61] in which he says that he admires & has loved Harro, & is still warmly his friend, but Harro resolves & persists to quarrel with him, & is writing a book in which he is to figure disadvantageously. Mr S. says, however, that he has now, since my letter, requested Mr W. C. Russell [62] to call on Harro, & use friendly offices.

I have just been reading "Dolores." I think you must buy a copy, (if you go to see H. best buy of him, perhaps.), and persuade Susan to try it. As it is — I am told — substantially true narrative, I am sure it will interest her. Some good persons here that I know, think it quite a bible on matters of Love, Marriage, & Social position of Woman. Its South America will interest you, too, if you can spare the time. Mrs Brown continues quite ill & makes Lidian anxious in want of a good nurse. All of us as well as usual, with hearty love.

Waldo.

So I put in here a note which you shall carry or send with an excusing inviting note — anyhow giving the poor martyr of liberty a right to ask counsel of you in need. (I must send you Stallknechts letter which is a credit to all parties:) — or, if you do not choose, you shall not carry or send at all.

## To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord, March 25, 1847 [63]

Concord March 1847

Dear friend,

I have had two letters from you which were both welcome. You shall surely keep the books as long as you read them. We can like any book so little while! Though its pages were cut out of the

61. Dated Mar. 10, 1847, and written in answer to Emerson's of Mar. 7 to Stallknecht.

62. *Doggett's New-York City Directory* for 1847–1848 lists William C. Russell, lawyer, presumably the William C. Russel of later letters.

63. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This MS, in Emerson's hand and endorsed by him "Letter to S. W. March 1847," is apparently a rough draft. The variations of this text from the incomplete version printed in *Letters from Ralph Waldo Emerson to a Friend*, pp. 63–65, presumably from the letter actually sent, are too numerous and extensive to record here. An incomplete MS copy in Cabot's hand (owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL) is substantially the same, though not quite so extensive, as the printed version.

sky & its letters were stars, in a short month we cannot find there with any turning of leaves the celestial sentences or the celestial scents we certainly found there one day; and I am of opinion that, relatively to individual readers, the fiery scriptures in each book either disappear once for all from the context, after a short time, or, else, have a certain intermittency & periodical obscuration like " revolving lights." Perhaps it is the same with the general use of books. Certainly I have seen nothing that craved to go to Lenox [64] since you gave me leave to look for you. I have read little but Swedenborg [65] & a play of Aristophanes (in English I need not add) and a little modern imagination in books I need not name for the same quality may be sucked indifferently from any bundle of railroad literature As the Western innholder said in defence of his wine Is it not red and is not the fuddle in it What in Heaven's name then do you want better? — If I could write the novels for the people! This doctrine of the secret societies the fraternity of the best joined for benefit through the world. That strikes me well whether in George Sand or in Harro Harring or in the Underground Railroad or in Platos Republic or in the Pythagorean league or Theban Band or in the institution of Knighthood or in [66] To be sure the good are already hereditarily members of this Cincinnati, and it is only beautiful when the members are and the countersign is a birthmark But my present thought chimes well with it as I think often where shall I get a whip for my top. I have a top which will spin like the Sisters' Wheel, & it has a poise like a planet & a hum like the spheral music, yet it refuses to spin Every atom, I have read in the cosmogonists, has a spiral tendency, an intrinsic effort to spin. In this strait I think of how many external sources where we might borrow that desireable push. Some have recommended political Revolutions, War, Want, as useful. Others think a stated task indispensable Others other things. I think if we cannot find ourselves in work, & must make a brick every day, a little practical philanthropy a very little, (an grain too much is instant death or raving distraction) would be good as an alterative Where to get our wine in these Temperance days a Temperance which is Famine, where to get our wine? I am invited on

64. For Ward's home at Lenox, Mass., *cf. The Early Years of the Saturday Club*, pp. 110–111.

65. Probably Emerson was revising his course of 1845–1846 (*cf.* a note on Oct. 2, 1845) in preparation for England.

66. Emerson failed to fill in the blank. The passage does not occur in the version of 1899.

some terms to England.[67] I have good friends there & am urged by some of my counsellors to go. But the kind of travel I affect, the most liberal, that made it a liberty & a duty to go is not to be found in hospitable invitations What seems to men & will to you a disease I am really tempted rather toward Canada, into loneliest retreats far from cities & friends who do not yield me what they would yield to any other companion, and I am possessed with the belief that literary power would be consulted by that course & not by the Public Road —

## To William Emerson, Concord, March 28, 1847[68]

Concord 28 March
1847

Dear William,

Mother's letter shall not go without my hearty thanks to you for your kind & prompt attention to our poor Harro, & for your details about him.[69] He does not write me a word of reply to my letter[70] proposing that he should send his book to Munroe. If he comes to you, ask him if he received it. I only know through you that he has heard from me at all. You that are so experienced in planning & engineering on land should be here to counsel me in these days that I may not make sad mistakes in laying out this Warren Orchard on the east of my house lot.[71] The fence has begun to go down. And next week my trees will arrive. Hugh Whelan has engaged himself to Mr Prichard for 8 months from 1 April. With love to Susan,

Yours, Waldo. —

## To Mary Rotch, Concord, March 28, 1847

[MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Printed in Cabot, II, 498–500. As there is no superscription, this MS may be only a carefully made copy in Emerson's hand, but the letter is otherwise complete and fills the four pages of the sheet, so that any superscription would have been on a separate wrapper. That Mary Rotch was the person addressed is clear from her letter dated New Bedford, Mass., Mar. 22, 1847, in which she discusses Griswold's comment on Emerson's idea of sinking God in man and wants to know whether Griswold is correct. For Mary Rotch, the remarkable Quaker woman mentioned in several earlier

67. *Cf.* Feb. 28, 1847, to Ireland.

68. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

69. William Emerson, Mar. 19 and 20, 1847 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), gives a lengthy account of his dealings with Harro Harring.

70. Of Mar. *c.* 12? 1847.

71. *Cf.* the first letter of Feb. 13, 1847.

letters, see especially Orville Dewey, *Autobiography*, 1884, pp. 67–68. Edwin S. Hodgin, *One Hundred Years of Unitarianism in New Bedford*, 1924, p. 26, states that the house Emerson lodged in when he preached at New Bedford was the home of Mary Rotch.]

### To Charles Lane, Concord? March 31, 1847

[Acknowledged in Lane's letter of July 2, 1847, from Ham, Surrey, about his books and other matters.]

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, April 1, 1847 [72]

T. Carlyle, Esq. Concord, 1 April, 1847.

My dear Carlyle,

A near neighbor & friend of mine, E. Rockwood Hoar, Esq. a lawyer much distinguished in his profession, and recently a member of the Senate of Massachusetts,[73] is commanded by his physician to leave off working, & to travel. He goes to England [74] & to Europe, for a few months. I cannot deny him the pleasure of seeing you. And, as Mr Hoar is particularly desirous of seeing Cambridge or Oxford, or both, I wish you would give him the best advice you can in that direction.

Yours affectionately,
R. W. Emerson.

### To William Emerson, Concord, April 1, 1847 [75]

Concord, 1 April, 1847.

Dear William

I received, day before yesterday, your letter, and the enclosed cheque on the Massachusetts Bank for nine hundred and seventy four dollars.[76] I looked in my trunk & found the bond you describe for $2000. dated 18 Aug. 1837. — But you wish me to say, Rec$^{d}$. 800, " leaving *1500* of principal money due on the within bond " — Why not

72. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

73. *The Massachusetts Register* for 1846 lists Hoar as senator from Middlesex.

74. William Emerson wrote, Apr. 9, 1847 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), that Hoar sailed the day before. The letter of Apr. 16, 1861, to Carlyle, recalls Hoar's English visit of fourteen years earlier.

75. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

76. Described in William Emerson, Mar. 27, 1847 (owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), as " being the Eight Hundred which you called for, and six months interest on $5800 to the 1st proximo." *Cf.* the first letter of Feb. 13, 1847, which also describes the land purchased of Warren.

1200? I will send you the receipt in your words, if they be right, but I do not understand it.

I have paid for my land and now alas! must cultivate it. When it is once fairly planted with trees, I doubt not I shall have much good of it; but there is a plenty of ignorance & indecision & perplexity between. I could not buy half of it, & have not for years had a square foot of land to set a tree in. Besides Warren threatened me occasionally with probable neighbors, ingenious gentlemen who proposed to buy house & shop lots: And at last James Brown the bookseller drove my madness to a head by showing me what great increase of value was given to any piece of land by planting fruit trees on it. This falling in with my conceits, & Warren agreeing that we should not trade that year, but that I should have it the next on the old terms, we settled it so. But the new year found me no richer than the old ones. This year I am as resolute as ever Falstaff was to live within bounds.[77] And I am taking in sail; and shall break out of slavery, if I can. Yours affectionately

Waldo

Here is the receipt which I have actually written below other memoranda on the bond for $2000 dated 18 August 1837

Concord, 31 March, 1847.

Received from William Emerson Eight hundred dollars of principal money due on the within bond.

R. Waldo Emerson.[78]

If you wish I will erase this, & write another in different form. R. W. E.

George Bradford decides to go to Jamaica Plains with his school: Miss Foord has left us: Mrs Goodwin will probably leave us in July: and then — perhaps I shall go to England!

### To Alexander Ireland, Concord, April 1, 1847

[Printed incompletely in Ireland, *In Memoriam,* p. 78.]

### To Rufus Wilmot Griswold, Concord? April? *c.* 7? 1847

[Described in Griswold's diary, Apr. 8, 1847, as a letter from Emerson expressing the opinion that a philosopher is not obliged to understand his own opinions (*Passages,* p. 227). *Cf.* Mar. 28, 1847, to Mary Rotch.]

77. Never in the three plays in which he appears does Shakespeare's fat knight muster up enough moral courage to reform, and he " can get no remedy against this consumption of the purse."

78. This copy of the receipt is canceled by three transverse lines. For Bradford's migration to Jamaica Plain, *cf.* the letters of June 4, to Margaret Fuller, and 29, 1847.

### To John Weiss, Concord? April *c.* 9? 1847

[Weiss, Watertown, Mass., Apr. 10, 1847, accepts Emerson's invitation to spend the next Wednesday at Concord.]

### To Caleb Stetson, Concord? April *c.* 11? 1847

[Mentioned in Apr. 11, 1847.]

### To Thomas Treadwell Stone, Concord? April *c.* 11? 1847

[Mentioned *ibid.*]

### To Convers Francis, Concord, April 11, 1847 [79]

Concord, 11 April, 1847.

My dear Sir,

I have never acknowledged your real kindness in procuring for me the desired "Price on Providence," [80] which you left so much after the manner of the angels at my door, one day, — as I have been constantly in the expectation of meeting you either in Boston or Cambridge. Meantime I beg you to accept a couple of little books which I believe were among those you noted on Mr Lane's shelves, Norris's Translation of Waring's Amoris Effigies; and Taylor's Two Treatises of Proclus.[81] I wish they were of more importance or came nearer in value to the book you brought me, & which I had looked for without success. My Aunt is, I am sure, greatly pleased, for her part.

Next Wednesday I expect a little company of gentlemen to spend the day with me — most of them old friends of yours — Parker, Ripley, Channing, Sumner, Clarke, Dwight, Elliot Cabot, Weiss, & others.

79. MS owned by the Public Library, Boston; ph. in CUL. The address is to "Rev. Dr Francis" at Cambridge.

80. The first part of Richard Price's *Four Dissertations,* of which there were a number of editions.

81. For Charles Lane's wish to sell his books to Emerson, or place them in Emerson's hands for sale, *cf.* Apr. 19, 1844, and various later letters to Lane. On Mar. 29, 1847, William Green, Jr., wrote from Boonton, N. J., that he had packed all Lane's books and was sending them to Emerson. The letter of Aug. 30, 1844, shows that Emerson had then purchased or borrowed a "Norris" from Lane. A 1744 edition of John Norris's *Effigies Amoris in English: or the Picture of Love Unveil'd,* a translation of Robert Waryng's work, is included in the catalogue of the Lane-Alcott library in *The Dial* for Apr., 1843. *Two Treatises of Proclus,* translated by Thomas Taylor from Cousin's edition, was published at London in 1833. Francis wrote on Apr. 13, 1847, thanking Emerson for the two volumes, Norris and Proclus.

As you will divine the plan of the meeting proceeded first from Mr Alcott,[82] who speaks according to his opportunity with all the sons of hope — they have promised him or me to come, and I have written also to Mr Stetson, & to Mr Stone of Salem. Will you not gratify the whole party with your presence & assistance?[83] They should come up in the early cars, which will bring them to my house at 8½, and after dinner we will set you free with our thanks in the P. M. train.

Yours respectfully & affectionately
R. W. Emerson.

## To Harro Harring, Concord? April 18, 1847

[Harring wrote from New York, Apr. 19, 1847, saying he had just received Emerson's "friendly lines from yesterday" and proceeded to detail his difficulties in publishing *Dolores*.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, April 21, 1847[84]

Concord, 21 April 1847

Dear William,

Many spring cares & works & works also that have little relation I fear to spring or summer have intercepted my good purpose of an earlier reply to your letter.[85] Thanks for your explanation of the form of receipt which I now adopt. I thought I had mentioned to you

82. Under date of Wednesday, Apr. 14, Alcott wrote in his MS diary (owned by Mr. F. W. Pratt):

"Our proposed meeting of gentlemen disposed to Print a Journal, as a successor of the Dial, convened this morning at Emerson's, and discussed the subject all day.

"The company consisted of the following Persons.

| | |
|---|---|
| "1 *Emerson* | 7 *Clarke* (J. F) |
| 2 *Parker* | 8 *Weyess* |
| 3 *Channing* (W. H.) | 9 *Stetson* |
| 4 *Sumner* | 10 *Dwight* |
| 5 *Cabot* | 11 *Thoreau* |
| 6 *Stone* | 12 *Alcott.*" |

According to the same entry, Emerson, Parker, and Sumner were appointed a committee to provide an editor and publisher and were to report at a meeting to be held on May 19 at Parker's. It is apparently the meeting of Apr. 14 that is recorded in *Journals*, VII, 268–269. The editors of that work conjectured that the date of this entry was actually May 15, but Emerson himself dated it Apr. 15 (see typescript *Journals*).

83. Francis replied in his letter of Apr. 13 that he wished he could meet with the company of "saints" but that his duties would keep him away.

84. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

85. William Emerson's letter partly written on Apr. 9, 1847 (owned by Dr. Haven Emerson). For the earlier form of receipt, see Apr. 1, 1847, to William Emerson.

the proposition which has come to me once or twice from England of lecturing [86] in Manchester & Birmingham, in which region considerable institutions of this kind of literature already exist and Carlyle seconds their proposition with a promise of a London aristocratic audience in the winter. I may go next fall but have not received today the letter I looked for from Mr Ireland my Manchester correspondent.

Lidian & Mother are very happy to hear that Susan will come & stay a little and Lidian begs her to bring Haven with her. Mother promises her half of her chamber for herself & Lidian will give Haven half of Eddie's big bed. Mothers chamber will be far better for Susan than Mrs G's remote spare chamber. Tell Susan that I am to go to Nantucket in May,[87] probably on the , to be gone ten days or a fortnight, but I shall be glad if my days at home contain her visit, and she must bring us full tidings of your roads & houses & gardens: and Hugh also wishes to know the fate of some apple tree, I think, which he grafted with care by the barn (?) I have a letter today from Margaret Fuller at Naples [88] She had seen Paris at last better than at first, has seen George Sand very well & nearly, & has described her to Elizabeth Hoar The bitter cold of the last month is yielding lately & I am ploughing this day & shall soon begin to set my trees. Tell Susan nothing about my Nantucketing and I will have the most of her visit I can.

Yours affectionately,
Waldo.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, April 30, 1847

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, April 30, 1847 [89]

Concord, 30 April, 1847.

Dear Margaret,

Your letter came the other day from Naples [90] with its golden news of the good & famous men & women & made us all your

86. In his letter of Apr. 9 cited above, William Emerson had written: "I have seen Mr Rockwood Hoar, who told me of the original suggestion & present uncertainty of the English tour."

87. *Cf.* letters of that month.

88. Emerson replied on Apr. 30.

89. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Margaret Fuller in care of Torlonia & Co., Rome. The Roman postmark is blurred, but seems to be dated May 26.

90. Probably her letter of Mar. 15, 1847, partly printed in *Memoirs*, Boston, II, 207–208.

debtors for the excellent portrait of Mme Sand in E's part of the letter.[91] We are all full of joy that you should now see really what you wish, — that you two should meet. These are hours & conjunctions of long & brilliant sequel extended far beyond the mysterious boundary of earthly days. It was high time, dear friend, that you should run out of the coop of our bigoted societies full of fire damp & azote, and find some members of your own expansive fellowship. What you sought & found at home only in gleams & sparkles of red & yellow light, — in those older gardens is absorbed & assimilated into texture, form, hue, & savour of flower & fruit. Well speed as you have begun, from the France of France to the Italy of Italy, blessed in nothing more than in this, that we at home so heartily feel that we all succeed in your success. Of course we have nothing to tell you. Nothing but old time-out-of-mind stars ever rise over these low grounds. As our south winds are sometimes cold because as we say, it is the north wind coming backward, so our enterprises are old ones turned. We had a company lately at my house, Alcott, W H Channing Parker, Sumner, Cabot, Dwight, Stone, & others, filled with rage to institute *a new Journal* — ![92] I suppose, you are not one of those sleepers who dream the same dream over many times. — It seems, I am. At all events I mention it now in answer to your proposition from Mazzini,[93] — which though it pleases & flatters me, I know not well how to accept in the face of this new demand. Mazzini has never written to me, as I think he ought, if he really wishes me to write. Cabot is to be our editor.[94] And the meeting of friends distinctly assured itself of your good will & some-time aid, It is doubtful if we print anything before September. — I have nothing yet settled in regard to lectures in England Carlyle writes affectionately & with some explicit information,[95] & I am to hear again from Mr Ireland shortly. Why is it so rarely vouchsafed — that sunbeam, that flow of celestial

91. There is a remarkable account of George Sand in Margaret Fuller to Elizabeth Hoar, Paris, Jan. 18, and Naples, Mar. 17, 1847 (*ibid.*, II, 193–199).

92. *Cf.* Apr. 11, 1847.

93. This is not in that part of Margaret Fuller's letter printed in *Memoirs;* but that book (II, 173 and 187) shows her enthusiasm for Mazzini, "By far the most beauteous person I have seen."

94. Gohdes, pp. 158 ff., gives some facts about the editing of *The Massachusetts Quarterly Review.* Cabot did not take so important a part as the present letter suggests. According to the letter of Sept. 21, 1848, Parker simply took control. Emerson refused to act, and Cabot withdrew formally shortly after the first volume was completed.

95. In his letter of Mar. 2, 1847 (*C–E Corr.*).

spirits to a human need, that should make us useful, & authors of happiness where we are. I have very pleasant Saturdays with Ellery quite punctually now for a long time. He is & remains the best company, is always superior & inexplicable, and I at least cannot listen to his grave & gay sense without believing that one who overlooks men & things so unerringly, must one day report his opinions as masterly. Nothing happens, or nothing that I know. I set out pears & apples in these April days, and I hope you shall find our no-landscape a little positive, when you come home again You will have heard of the death of your kinsman Mr Abraham Fuller.[96] I cannot learn from Ellery, who is too witty, what disposition exactly he made of his estate. . I wish to know that you are to be benefitted, you, & your sister Ellen. But Ellery insists that there shall be nothing, where so many divide. I was glad surely to be remembered by the Poems with George Sand. That English edition however has gross errors. Carlyle has been reading your book lately with real respect, and speaks of you in kindliest terms, expecting your return. Rockwood Hoar is gone out there for a six months vacation. Possibly he may get as far as Rome. My Mother, Lidian, send love as they truly cherish you. Your affectionate Waldo
You speak of "lines" from me, surely I have written a letter by every steamer lately.[97]

### To Samuel Gray Ward, Concord? April 30, 1847

[Bluebook List.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Nantucket, Massachusetts, May 4 and 5, 1847[98]

Nantucket 4 May 1847

Dear Lidian,

I saw Mrs Jackson in town but she had already written you, & I found her not ready to let her house. My baggage went by a blunder of the driver's to the U. S. Hotel, so I decided to spend the night there. In the dining hall, I met an old classmate, Angier; and I

96. According to the *Daily Evening Transcript*, Apr. 7, 1847, Abraham W. Fuller, counselor at law, died on the 6th.

97. This is further evidence that some of Emerson's letters of early 1847 are now lost.

98. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

proposed that we should go to the Italian opera,[99] and we went. Such things are worth ten times their cost to country people; only I suffered much anxiety lest these scarlet women should burn themselves up, they hovered so near the foot-lamps — which fear was, to be sure, very green & rural. — At last, however, the prima donna's apron caught on fire & blazed up like a shaving, — which was a comfort to me a[s][100] she kept one inch from the flame for the rest of the evening. Yes we may learn there something of what we can never learn too much, the wonder of melody that sleeps unknown in us. If I could once get away into that private nook that I have been seeking ever since I can remember, I would take the benefit of this opera and write such verses as would take arms & feet & head & body to express, as well as the tongue. — 5 May. After my affectionate time with John Angier the next morning in the cars I found another classmate, my chum too, Dorr of South Boston, whom I had never met to speak to since the college days. I left him then a hunter of peeps & partridges and a fisherman, and here he was again with his fishing tackle under his arm going down to Martha's Vineyard to find trout which it seems he steadily pursues from time to time i[n] all these years. He let me pretty fast into the mysteries of his life, before we left him at Holmes's Hole. I should gladly have got out there & gone with him the seven miles he was to ride in a wagon to his lonely haunts. But our steamer ran out to sea, and in two or three hours the long low flat line of Nantucket lifted itself about to the height of a turtle out of the ocean and, on arriving at the wharf, a good share of the population seemed to be there waiting for the arrival of the boat, which arrives every alternate day: as indeed there seems to be much leisure in Nantucket I was presently established very comfortably at Mrs Parker's " Mansion House " and in the Evening read a lecture at the Athenaeum.[101] Here I found another classmate, Bunker, so that I seem to have got into a school of meteors of 1821. — Mother begs you to send to her at Mr Tower's 15 Kneeland St[102] any tidings you may receive from New York respecting

99. Probably Emerson attended the performance of Donizetti's *Linda di Chamounix* by the Italian Opera Company on May 3, announced in the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of that day.

100. A fragment of the MS is missing. The same mutilation explains a later pair of square brackets.

101. The *Nantucket Inquirer* of Apr. 7, 1847, names Emerson among the lecturers engaged by the Atheneum for the season. For his course there, see *Journals*, VII, 270 ff.

102. Benjamin Tower's, according to *Adams's Boston Directory*, 1847.

Susan's intended visit. I think you had better open any letters that come to me & then send any through the mail that are important. I asked Susan J. if the Doctor had any offers to make Henry T.[103] None at present as Mr Henshaw too has nephews, but he may have yet. I have not any particulars that can interest Mrs Goodwin.[104] So with love to the children & best wishes that Mrs Brown is really better

Yours affectionately
Waldo

## To Theodore Parker, Nantucket, Massachusetts, May 6, 1847 [105]

Nantucket, 6 May, 1847.

My dear Sir,

I attempted to see you on Monday in Boston, but you were not to be found; — & must write now what I wished to say then; this, namely; that I wish you to take your proper place as chairman of the committee appointed in Concord [106] to look after the affair of the Journal. I wish to be adjutant, simply, not principal, and will cheerfully serve it, but neither can nor will lead it. Meantime it needs immediate & constant leading, & I beg that you will adopt your own course at once, & inform me from time to time how I can help in it. Beside so many other qualifications, it plainly requires residence in Boston to make a convenient & efficient chairman. — I mentioned to you that perhaps Wiley & Putnam would make good publishers — A few days afterwards I was sorry to see that Duyckinck and they appeared to have quarreled, — Duyckinck, with whom I have had some friendly correspondence,[107] & by whom I meant to propose it. So I have done nothing about it.

Mr Alcott has furnished me with a quantity of MSS from which I doubt not I can draw a good paper for your service when you want it. I have a manuscript translation of Dante's *Vita Nuova*,[108] which I

103. Thoreau could doubtless have been a valuable aid in the geological survey of the United States mineral lands in Michigan which Emerson's brother-in-law, Charles T. Jackson, had undertaken.

104. *Cf.* May 6, 1847.

105. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Parker at Boston.

106. See Apr. 11, 1847.

107. *Cf.* Mar. 12, 1847, and earlier letters.

108. Apparently Emerson's own prose translation, perhaps with Channing's metrical version of some passages (*cf.* July 11, 1843).

think might be well printed in two parts under your auspices, and new matter of less price will, I suppose, be ready when it is wanted. Moreover I look upon Mrs Goodwins Café [109] as a main magazine of wits for your use.

Yours,,
R. W. Emerson.

To Ellen Emerson, Nantucket, Massachusetts, May 10, 1847 [110]

Nantucket, 10 May, 1847.

Dear Ellen,

I was very glad of your journals This island is like a ship sixty miles out at sea: [111] anything that comes from the mainland is highly valued. And papas that leave their homes, and wander here, you may be very sure are glad to hear from their daughters. This is a strange place, the island is fifteen miles long, but there are no woods and no trees upon it, and hardly any fence. As soon as you have walked out of the town or village of Nantucket (in which there are a few little gardens and a few trees) you come on a wide bare common stretching as far as you can see on every side, with nothing upon it but here & there a few nibbling sheep. And if you walk on till you have lost sight of the town, and a fog rises, which is very common here, you will have no guide to show you the way, no houses, no trees, no hills, no stones, so that it has many times happened here that people have been lost, & when they did not come back, the whole town came out & hunted for them. All the people here live by killing whales, which in old times used to swim about the island & the men went out in boats & killed them with harpoons; but now they go to the Pacific Ocean for them in great ships. But one day when the ship Essex was sailing there, a great sperm whale was seen coming with full speed towards the vessel: in a moment he struck the ship with terrible force, staving in some planks, and causing a leak: then he went off a little way, & came back swiftly,

109. It would seem that there was some thought of a more or less formal club to bring together the men interested in founding *The Massachusetts Quarterly Review*. On May 10, 1847, Mrs. E. C. Goodwin wrote to Emerson about her difficulties in securing the right kind of house in Boston. She thought it best, she said, to let the matter rest till Emerson found out what was practicable, as the 19th, when his "club" was to dine at Parker's, was so near.

110. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

111. The distance between the mainland and Nantucket is actually much less, but Emerson probably thought of his "ship" as having sailed from New Bedford.

the water all white with his violent motion, & struck the ship a second frightful blow; the crew were obliged instantly to escape in boats, and the ship sunk in a few minutes.[112] The Captain is now here. — Tell Mamma that I have received Mrs Goodwins letter[113] today & her own enclosed note and am uneasy at hearing of Eddy's cold. You must all take care of him & make him well.

With a kiss for Edie, too,
Your affectionate father.
R. W. E.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, June 2, 1847[114]

Concord, 2 June, 1847.

Dear Carlyle,

Rev. Frederic Henry Hedge of Bangor in Maine, an old friend of mine, and a chief supporter of the cause of good letters in this country goes now to England France Germany, to Greece, & I know not where further; but first to England & to London. I have charged him to go & see you. I think I have sent a good many friends to you lately, but seldom any one who was on so many grounds entitled to know you as Mr Hedge. So I trust he will find you in an hour of happiest leisure. Yours affectionately,

R. W. Emerson.

## To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, June 4, 1847

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed, with omission indicated, in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

112. There are a number of published accounts of the sinking of the "Essex" by a whale in the year 1820. Captain George Pollard, Jr., one of the few persons rescued after the catastrophe, returned to Nantucket to a "somber reception." After another voyage, resulting in another wreck, he gave up the sea, it seems, and served as a member of the Nantucket police for many years. (See, especially, F. R. Dulles, *Lowered Boats,* n. d. [1933], pp. 143–154.) *Cf.* Emerson's story mentioned in a note on Dec. 2, 1833, which also seems to belong to the whaling lore in the background of Melville's later novel *Moby-Dick.*

113. See a note on May 6, 1847.

114. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Hedge is named as bearer in the superscription. The *Daily Evening Transcript,* June 5, 1847, lists him among the passengers in the "Washington Irving," which cleared on the 4th for Liverpool and seems to have sailed on the 5th (*Journals,* VII, 284). Carlyle wrote his impressions of Hedge in a letter dated Aug. 31, 1847 (*C–E Corr.*).

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, June 4, 1847 [115]

Concord, June 4, 1847.

Dear Margaret,

Henry Hedge goes tomorrow to England [116] & you shall have a line, let it arrive when it pleases God: The late spring has opened at last into honest summer, but our souls are not saved, nor can we spare our friends, or any of their benefits. The famine in Europe only affects potatoes, the sterility in America continues in the men. The ophthalmia so much deplored prevails in all its virulence. We cannot see where we are going, preternaturally sharp as our eyes are at short distances, nor can we discern a single plant, animal, man, house, temple, or god, and say confidently, It is this or that; Here is a native reality. — Strange malady, is it not? [117] By all means keep the Atlantic between you & us for the present, as you love your eyes. Meantime the roads are full of all manner of hale teamsters & riders, cattle & tantivy: the farms, of stout men dispersed at proper distances, planting fencing & ditching, and the towns, of manufacturers bankers runners & miscellaneous red & swarthy eaters who know little & care less for the pale Unitarians & philosophers who spy them from their churches & corners & damn them for nobodies — Have you found it better in Europe. I was heartily glad you saw Mme Sand & the Polander [118] & heard the musical gods. And now [1]Rome is keeping its old promise to your eyes & mind, Rome which always keeps its promise, & which like Nature has that elasticity of application to all measures of spirit. These millennial cities in their immense accumulations of human works find it easy to impress the imagination by gradually dropping one piece after another of whim blunder & absurdity, — hay stubble & bladders, — until nothing but necessity & geometry remains.[1] But is not life too short & the history of Rome too long, than that an American should hurry through its streets & ways, & never open Plutarch or Livy, much less Horace or

115. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is in *Journals*, VII, 283. The address is to Margaret Fuller in care of Brown, Shipley, & Co., Liverpool.

116. See June 2, 1847.

117. Emerson had recently had an important part in meetings of those interested in founding a new journal to represent radical thought (*cf.* a note on Apr. 11, 1847). For an account of a meeting of a "Council of Reformers," which he attended only a week before he wrote the present letter, see *William Lloyd Garrison . . . by his Children*, III, 187–188.

118. Adam Mickiewicz, said Margaret Fuller (*Memoirs*, Boston, II, 207), first made Emerson's *Essays* known in Paris.

Cicero? Ah must we walk proudly too in Rome, & say, But we are Americans & have no Roman affairs? O Sappho, Sappho, friend of mine! I would fain know the best of your Roman experiences, as probably I might not find them in any faithfullest paragraph of your journal. — Well you have Rome enough, & wish to hear of the beggars at home. Concord is all well I believe. We have lately lost George Bradford from our house, who is gone to Jamaica Plains, to teach again. Rockwood Hoar is making a flying visit to Rome & the Rhine engaged here at home again at the October courts. You may meet that busy bird. Carlyle writes of him in a letter I received today.[119] Carlyle presses my visit to England & it may grow to reality. You will think it needful after all this pale ink and dyspeptic description of home. Elizabeth is well, & Lidian, & my Mother, & all this house. Hedge too, you will meet, perchance. He goes to Greece. I hate to have him go alone. Mrs Ripley and her house, — Ellery & Ellen C. you know all about. I hear you are to have a little money — I had hoped it tenfold more — from your uncle's estate.[120] When I hear that you want money much for your journey, I lament anew my unskilful economics which have brought me latterly into increasing debt, which with our sprawling style of housekeeping sometimes threatens to get unmanageable. To serve you in the smallest part, you whom I have never offered to serve, would be a happiness. Well it seems the world as usual honours independence & means you shall preserve it. Did I write you since your letter concerning Mazzini? [121] He has never written to me, & I think I can have nothing to say until he does. I shall certainly consider all you have written in any communication that may arise between us. Neither have I been able to serve a different man his friend Harro.[122] though I tried; but he could not or would not accept our only modes. — It seems pretty certain, chiefly from Theo. Parker's zeal that we may have a new journal in Sept. or October. If there are new slides in our camera, you who have seen the old so gently, shall surely hear of them from your affectionate Waldo E.

## To William Emerson, Concord, June 7, 1847

[WmE List.]

119. Carlyle's letter of May 18, 1847 (*C–E Corr.*).
120. *Cf.* Apr. 30, 1847, to Margaret Fuller.
121. *Ibid.*
122. See letters of Mar., 1847.

## To Thomas Palmer, Concord, June 14, 1847[123]

Concord, 14 June, 1847.

Dr Thomas Palmer.

Dear Sir, I have received your letter[124] & its enclosure, for which I subjoin a receipt. I have also endorsed the receipt upon the note. I will write to Mr Lane by the steamer day after tomorrow, and inform him of the same & take his farther directions. Meantime though not exactly informed of his wishes, I think it will be best for all parties if your father will pay the remainder of the note (for $400.) on the 18 August next, that is, a year from the time it was given. If Mr Lane gives any other instructions, I will immediately advise you on receiving them. I was truly sorry not to see your father as I wished to know his own views & convenience. Yours respectfully,

R. W. Emerson

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Concord 14 June 1847

Received of Joseph Palmer one hundred dollars, in trust for Charles Lane, on a note of hand for four hundred dollars payable to R. W. Emerson dated 18 August, 1846.

R. Waldo Emerson.

## To Charles Lane, Concord? June 15, 1847

[Acknowledged in Lane's letter from Ham, Surrey, July 2, 1847.]

## To George Partridge Bradford, Concord, June 29, 1847[125]

Concord, 29 June, 1847.

Dear George,

Your letter[126] was very welcome & could no more be confined to the receiver than lamplight. Everybody was your particular

123. MS, at Fruitlands, owned by Miss Clara Endicott Sears. A MS copy which I have checked with the original is in CUL.

124. Thomas Palmer wrote to Emerson from Fitchburg, Mass., June 12, 1847, inclosing $100 as payment on the note his father, Joseph Palmer, owed to Charles Lane. *Cf.* July 27, 1846.

125. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is in Cabot, II, 495.

126. Bradford had written from Jamaica Plain on June 22, 1847, telling of his greater liking for Concord now that he had left it. The letter of June 4 to Margaret Fuller tells of his leaving Concord to teach in Jamaica Plain, to which place the present letter is addressed.

friend & had a right to know. Everybody, of course, was flattered that you were homesick. but to the inquiry how the new school prospered? there was no reply, and no clue for so much as a guess. Concord, meantime has as you may believe been lonelier, triste – er than ever, all gone to eyes & eyelashes, and a mournful silence. I dont know but it was some anniversary feeling, or a premonitory symptom of a "Bradford Society" that sent a party the other day to Princeton & Wachusett. But with a dismal success, as I hear. Sam. Carr had failed, and food for man & beast was little or none. But the mountain laurel will bloom again. Mr Brooks, a Princeton thane, has bought Wachusett, 500 acres for 2500 dollars, and will build a public house speedily, large enough for the largest Concord carousal.[127] I was at Westminster, one day, but did not get to the famous precipice, which is not "a thousand feet perpendicular," but one hundred; and does not descend to the lake in Westminster; which I rode around in a wagon. Have you seen Ellery's book on Italy?[128] Those who wish for his popularity, will conceive new hopes now that he has written so readable a book, & one that approaches so near to his style of conversation

You are to know that whilst *young* Concord holds its levee at Walden Pond on 5 July, under guidance of John Brown & Barzillai Frost, *Old* Concord goes to Harrington Grove Waltham under the wing of the Eagles, Roes, & Condors of Freedom. – In the garden all your plants grow & praise you: the grafts in the wild cherry dared to die, the buds to the very last looking as full of life as ever. The trees were duly transplanted to the future arbour of the Warren lot, but Alcott does not come to build. [1]No news or visitor from abroad, no lion roars, no mouse cheeps, we have discovered no new book, but the old atrophy inanition & drying up proceeds at an accelerated rate, and you must hasten hither before any high wind shall sweep us into past & pluperfect tenses.[1] Meantime, all yours[129] love you very much, & wish that the gust may not come before they have seen you. Affectionately,

Waldo E.

127. Samuel Carr had become owner of Wachusett House in 1845, but the old house was moved off and the new one built by John Brooks was not opened till 1849 (Francis E. Blake, *History of the Town of Princeton in the County of Worcester*, 1915, p. 358).

128. *Conversations in Rome: between an Artist, a Catholic, and a Critic*, Boston, 1847, is a prose work.

129. This word is carelessly written and hardly legible.

## To Harrison Gray Otis Blake, Concord, July 4, 1847 [130]

Concord, 4 July, 1847

My dear Sir,

I cannot afford in my hermit state which sometimes closes round me more like a sheath than a cell, to let your friendliest voice go unanswered. Of course, I have nothing to do with your fine exaggerations which are only astonishing in this that they have stayed by you so long. Like the fleetingest mists these persistent ones will blow off presently, and leave the looming figures dwarfed to the size of life, but real fixed & related to you. But I have to thank you for this fine generous criticism which furnishes a new portrait such as none of my critics have drawn, & which has certainly this certificate of its goodness, that it touches & admonishes me. I accept the omen, at least. I believe that more comes to a head in every sound well developed man than he or any body wots of. Men are the pores of Nature, and Nature cannot do without the perspirations. But in this grand body, each pore has a special function — not to be supplied or superseded by any of the other innumerable pores, which have their own organism, as reliable & indispensable. We must have not cotton only, but cotton, hemp, flax & mulberry; & every other weed in our flora will, no doubt, have its turn to be as famed a staple as the cotton pod is now. So that life teaches at every point the bifold lesson of assurance & humility. We cannot do without you — you cannot do without us. You may easily have too much salt, & be tired of it; but salt need not kill itself for that, knowing that it occupies a point in nature's economy which nothing else can fill, & you will come back to it. So does potash, sulphur, brandy, & milk, — so does each of them keep a good heart, since it is not here for nothing, & will presently be the one thing wanted. Only let each wear his own manners, and milk not try to be brandy, nor sulphur to be soap. — We may well go to sleep, for our Friend wakes. We may put off our clothes, we may put off our bodies, but it is not possible for the mind to divest itself of the faith that a beneficent tendency rounds in all these varieties, impresses itself on every atom, persuades every intelligence, — and carries its point. It beguiles the freest of his freedom — on the Fourth of July, and on all

130. MS owned by Mr. W. T. H. Howe; ph. in CUL. The address is to Blake at Worcester, Mass. I have not found the letter Emerson answers, but Cabot describes it, in a MS note, as " an enthusiastic letter to the effect that his critics with all their praises seem to be blind to ' that great truth wh. goes ever with you, that you receive day by day from an Infinite Source, in proportion as you are true to your genius.' "

other days & centuries, and brings back the wildest democrat, – the practical as well as the theoretical *mauvais sujet* Barnburner, Anti-renter,[131] Burglar, Man-stealer &-Killer as gently & surely as the Mother the Babe, to his own & the common weal. These two facts – that our selves are somebodies, & may be relied on as good for some performance, and then that our private roots run down into the great Perfection; – if trite & truistical – are still the two articles of my creed, and they both certainly furnish the just basis for the doctrine of inspiration, and for every other piece of courage and forwardness. But if I write you such long sermons you will not try me again, so I will quit the generalities. – I hear with interest what you tell me of your private history. I cannot criticise at a distance, and will believe that you do not use the microscope too much in your affairs. What was it that the sad Samuel Johnson said, that things were always happening where little was to be said & much was to be done. – Well I also believe that in affairs we must not anatomize, that the spade is better than the trowel, & the plow better than the spade. And so in general the wholesale gross style in farming & in garden and in our economies is often a great prudence

Write to me, certainly, when you have anything for me. I have a little leaning now towards a project that has been pressed on me lately from England to go out thither next autumn and read some lectures before some Institutes that have been growing up there. But perhaps I shall not go. But I find I must stop, so will bid you goodbye affectionately,[132]

## To Theodore Parker, Concord, July 9, 1847[133]

Concord, 9 July, 1847.

My dear Sir,

I have tried to see you since I received your note concerning the Journal.[134] I wonder a little at your boldness in promising 225[135] pages; which makes, I am told, a book as big as the North American, for

131. Cooper's three novels which were the chief literary product of the anti-rent excitement had been published in 1845 and 1846.

132. A small section of the MS below this word has been cut out. The following notation attests the mutilation: "R. W. Emerson. Name copied from autograph."

133. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Parker at Boston.

134. Parker had written:

"Boston, 20th June 1847.

"My dear Sir

"Howe, Cabot & I have concocted the following morceau as the Prospectus of our new journal, viz.

a price as small as the Christian Examiner's! Then, 2dly, I think so short a prospectus should certainly be shorter. I should write it, " THE MASSACHUSETTS QUARTERLY REVIEW; a Journal of literature, politics, religion, & humanity." So easy is it to carp. All that can be expected in a programme of these dimensions is irreducibleness. You say truly that the first Number must be our demonstration. .

Yours affectionately,
R. W. Emerson

## TO MARY MOODY EMERSON, CONCORD? JULY? *c.* 15? 1847

[Mary Moody Emerson, July 17, endorsed 1847 by Emerson, says she was pleased with his letter and with his plans for England. She wishes he could get into Milton's room and blind himself to all but real poetry. On Aug. 15 of the same year she wrote her nephew a farewell letter.]

## TO ORSON S. MURRAY, CONCORD? JULY? *c.* 30? 1847

[Murray, Fruit Hills, Warren County, O., Aug. 2, endorsed 1847, says Emerson's letter, inclosing one in which Charles Lane sent $12, has been received at " the office of the Regenerator."]

## TO ALEXANDER IRELAND, CONCORD, JULY 31, 1847

[MS listed in Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge, July 2–4, 1917; incompletely printed in Ireland, *In Memoriam*, pp. 78–79.]

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" ' THE MASSACHUSETTS QUARTERLY REVIEW,
" a JOURNAL FOR PROGRESS,

will be published on the first of December 1847, & continued on the first of March, of June & of September.

" It will it will open a fair field for the notice & discussion of matters pertaining Literature, Politics, Religion, to Humanity & the Humanities.

" Each number will contain about 125 pages, at the price of $3.00 per annum.

" Communications, subscriptions &c. may be addressed to the subscribers.

" Coolidge & Wiley,
" 13, Water Street
" Boston.'

I wish you would add any thing which would improve the brief little advertisement, & tell me of any *plans* which you have in view. What can you send for the first number? A good deal depends on that – it will be our *Prospectus*. I want an article on *the Mexican War*, for one thing. Plase send to Mr Cabot as soon as convenient what you think most fit.

" Yours truly
" Theo. Parker "

135. Parker's number is badly written but is almost certainly " 125."

## To James William Hudson, Concord, July 31, 1847 [136]

Concord
Mass. } 31 July, 1847.

J. W. Hudson, Esq. P. D.

Dear Sir,

I am very much obliged by your very kind note of invitation in behalf of the institutes which you represent,[137] and by the animating field of literary labor which it opens to me in England. I have written to Mr Ireland, that I decide to sail for England about the 1 October and that I shall hold myself ready to accept at least a part of the several engagements you so liberally offer me. I believe that I shall have to throw myself mainly on Mr Ireland's judgment to arrange in consultation with yourself the best plan for meeting these engagements. In the hope of soon thanking you personally for your kind expressions in your letter, I am respectfully yours,

R. W. Emerson.

136. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This MS, in Emerson's hand, is endorsed by him: "Copy of Letter to J W Hudson July 1847."

137. Hudson's letter, dated Leeds, June 29, 1847, and written, as its heading shows, for the Central Committee of the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes, seems to have ended whatever doubts Emerson had hitherto felt about going to England:

"Sir

"Mr. Ireland of Manchester has written to me respecting the probability of obtaining numerous engagements to Lecture in England should you favor us with a visit. — I can engage for the north and south of England that we should hail with delight the great transatlantic Essayist and our Lecture Halls would be crowded with men who have already learned to love and now only wait to *see* the American poet.

"For the Institutions of Yorkshire of which I am the representative with their 12000 members let me especially beg and intreat you to favor us with your presence I now offer without consultation 75 Guineas for 15 nights *in 3 weeks* that is nightly except Sunday & Saturday all to Institutes in this neighbourhood — more I shall probably be enabled to offer upon enquiry and upon knowing that you will visit England the offer made is for November up to May. — Upon receipt of this note you will perhaps oblige me by replying direct that we may know your intention as to favoring England and the English with a visit

1847 1848

"Your warm admirer
"and obedt servt
"Jas Wm Hudson
"Ph D

"Ralph Waldo Emerson Esq
"&c &c
"Concord U. S."

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, July 31, 1847

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

### To Charles Lane, Concord? July 31, 1847

[Acknowledged in Lane, Ham, Surrey, Aug. 16, 1847.]

### To Joseph Ricketson? Concord, August 3, 1847 [138]

Concord, 3 August, 1847

My dear Sir,

I have just decided to go to England in the beginning of October, which, I believe I wrote you already,[139] was a contingent plan of mine. You must therefore strike off my name from your list of lecturers for the coming season. I am really sorry to refuse to come to your Association, which has my best hopes & respect. With kind remembrances to Mr Robeson, when you see him, I am Yours respectfully,

R. W. Emerson

### To Eliza Cabot Follen, Concord, August? *c.* 6? 1847

[MS listed in Goodspeed's Book Shop, Nov., 1916, and Jan.–Mar., 1922. The letter is there dated only 1847, but it is clear from the description given in the earlier catalogue that Emerson wrote in answer to a request that he recommend Dr. John Pringle Nichol as a speaker before the Lowell Institute. This was, then, in all probability, an answer to Mrs. Follen, Brattleboro, Vt., Aug. 4 (endorsed 1847), asking exactly that favor of Emerson. *Cf.* the letters of Nov. 4, 1847.]

138. MS owned by Goodspeed's Book Shop; ph. in CUL. If the Robeson mentioned was, as seems probable, the same who reappears in the letters of Mar. 9 (to William Emerson) and 10, 1848, then the letter was doubtless written to a person in New Bedford, Mass. A number of persons in New Bedford had corresponded with Emerson on behalf of the lyceum in recent years: Thomas A. Greene, Benjamin Rodman, William J. Rotch, Daniel Ricketson, and Joseph Ricketson. Of these Joseph Ricketson seems most probably the one addressed in the present letter, for he had written as secretary of "the N. B. Lecture Association" as late as Dec. 29, 1846, when he referred to a lecture promised for Jan. 4 following (*cf.* Nov. 26? 1846). Both Joseph Ricketson and Rodman were, like Robeson, among the incorporators of the New Bedford Institution for Savings in 1825 (*New Bedford*, ed. William L. Sayer, 1889, p. 245).

139. This may refer to a letter of which I have no other trace.

## To Theodore Parker, Concord, August 11, 1847[140]

Concord, 11 August, 1847

Dear Sir,

I was in town yesterday, and was actually crossing the common in a course leading to West St & Rowe Place,[141] when I remembered that you must be at West Roxbury. I am truly sorry at such a *contretemps* as my English visit and the advent of the " Quarterly." I went to town, as soon as I saw that I certainly must go, to crave a little mercy of you & Cabot, — the mercy of a few months, I mean, in the publication of the First Number, that I might be fully a partaker in the enterprise. But Cabot told me you were not in town, & that besides he believed you were inexorable. I could be well content there should be a Journal; I find it excellent that there is inexorable energy pledged to it, but I regret that my name is published as in the Direction, when I must for the present be a helpless associate. I dare not go to England without a good deal of special preparation for lectures which I have promised to read there — I am very ill provided — and I find the days few & short. I do not go until about 1 October, and I must certainly see you. Will you write me what days you are in Boston. I go into town every Tuesday & Friday in these weeks to pronounce a little French with Dr Arnoult: [142] and could call on you anywhere, between 4 & 6½ o clock P. M. Otherwise, you must come & dine with me some *other day than Tuesd & Friday*. Come in 11 o'clock cars, & go down at 6.

Yours ever,

## To Edward Bangs, Concord, August 12, 1847[143]

Concord, 12 August, 1847

My dear Sir,

Your letter pleased me so well that I wished to sit down immediately & talk with you of it; but that day I had company, the

140. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address, now partly cut away, is to Parker at West Roxbury, Mass. The signature, which was doubtless written on the opposite side of the same leaf, is entirely missing.

141. That is, to Pickering Place (*cf. Adams's Boston Directory*, 1847).

142. Émile Arnoult appears in *Adams's Boston Directory*, 1847. There is a letter in French from him to Emerson dated Sept. 2 and endorsed 1847 which asks leave to postpone a lesson. Emerson also tried to improve his French by reading a newspaper in that language (see Aug. 30, 1847, to William Emerson), and even in London he planned to continue his study in preparation for Paris (*cf.* Mar. 2, 1848, to Margaret Fuller).

143. MS owned by CUL; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to Bangs, at Water-

next day I went to the city, yesterday there was company again, — and now today I hope it is not too late to tell you how glad I am to be confided in, & to hear of the old melodies again, from one whose ear is still within their vibrations. But your letter suggests so many things that I would so gladly say to so proud a climber who is just ready to scale the Mount, and force the pinnacle, that I see it will not help if I begin to write. Nor will I affect to invite you to visit me, nor myself to visit you, in these days, that for me are counted & crowded. In about six weeks I am to sail for England, where I am to spend 5 or 6 months. My engagements there are of such a kind as to involve me in some reading & writing — more than is good — just now; it therefore occurs to me that if I could see you on some neutral ground, — and here it is. I have a little affair of trust to despatch at the Shaker Family in Harvard. I think to go thither next Monday. I am sure you never saw the Shakers, and, if you, like Gibbon, are to write a chapter on monachism, how can you skip them? — In short will you not take the Fitchburg cars on Monday morning (the morning train leaving Charlestown at 7. A M) : take me in at the depot in Concord; at Littleton, we get a wagon, & it is a short & pleasant ride.? We can come down in the P. M. train. And this space will give us better room for all the topics than any other that is open to me. I really hope it may be practicable & pleasant to you. At all events I shall look for you at our Depot at 8 o'clock on Monday morning.

Yours affectionately,

R. W. Emerson.

## To Lidian Emerson, Concord, August 23, 1847 [144]

Concord, 23 August, 1847

Dear Lidian,

You may give yourself rest in the mountains & lakes for your children & household are safe & sound. Nothing breaks the silence of the afternoon except their shouts about the plum tree which divides their attention with the apples & the cats of nine tails. Frank [145] went to

town, Mass. For this young disciple, *cf.* Feb. 28 of this year to Margaret Fuller, and later letters. I conjecture that "the old melodies" came from the Orient (see Nov. 2 following). Emerson's "little affair of trust" may well have been in connection with Charles Lane's interests. The abbreviation "Mass." has been inserted after "Harvard," but perhaps not by Emerson.

144. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The letter was sent in "Care of Augustus Parsons, Esq," at South Waterford, Me.

145. Francis Charles "Browne," of Concord, appeared as a freshman in the Harvard catalogue of 1847–1848.

Cambridge last evening to stand his examination and his mother is beginning to discover his numerous & shining virtues. Mr Alcott & Henry are laboring at the summer house, which, in spite of their joint activity, has not yet fallen. A few more spikes driven would to all appearance shatter the supporters. I think to call it Tumbledown-Hall.[146] Mr Channing has not yet reappeared, though Saturday is come & gone. Mrs Goodwin decides to remain in Concord, & keep your soul & body together, until April. So give my love to Aunt Mary, and, if you can, induce her to come & see Mrs Goodwin, when I am gone, as she will not come & see me. I have not yet had an opportunity of seeing Gore Ripley since her letter came, in order to put my blunders, with which she makes herself gay, right. This day, Charles Haskins[147] of Cincinnati, son of Ralph H. — Esq. & Mrs Inman Haskins of Cincinnati, to whose individuality I can give you Plymouth woman no clue, have come & dined with your Mother & me, & I must go presently to see them; so you shall have no sentiment except only the conveyance of my love to Elizabeth, and also kindest regards to Hannah Parsons, from yours affectionately

Waldo.

## To Charles Timothy Brooks, Concord? August *c.* 25? 1847

[Brooks, Newport, R. I., July 31, 1847, asks Emerson to call Carlyle's attention to Brooks's translation of Richter's *Titan,* which needs an English publisher. Brooks, Aug. 27 following, says he had not thought to trouble Emerson with his MS of *Titan,* but since Emerson has "started that matter" near the end of his letter, Brooks suggests carrying a part of the MS to Carlyle or to some English publisher. Brooks, Sept. 6, 1847, agrees with a suggestion which Emerson probably sent in a second or third letter to him.]

## To E. P. Clark, Concord, August 26, 1847[148]

Concord, 26 August, 1847.

Dear Sir,

If this account of Messrs Wiley & Putnam were the total ac-

146. Alcott apparently took some pride in this achievement, for he records in his diary of 1854 that when he read to Marston Watson, of Plymouth, "my 'Emerson's Summer-House' diary for 1847," Watson was enough impressed to engage the transcendental architect to build an elaborate one for him during the coming autumn, 1855 (Sanborn and Harris, II, 479). *Cf.* also Aug. 29, 1847. A picture of the summer-house in Emerson's yard is to be found in Alcott, *Emerson,* privately printed, 1865, p. 62.

147. A Charles Haskins, grocer, is listed in *Williams' Cincinnati Directory* for 1849–1850.

148. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Clark, "Cashier of

count of the book, I should certainly be disposed to accept it for Mr Carlyle, as I should certainly accept it for myself, if I were the creditor. But as in making the bargain, they contemplated the long sale & whole account of the book, I suppose they foresaw or might have foreseen this state of things, and arranged for their own remuneration in the sequel. If therefore they now curtail their payments below their promise in the contract, I think they ought to make good that deficiency in the following Accounts up to the letter of the contract.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

## To Margaret Fuller, Concord, August 29, 1847 [149]

Concord, 29 August, 1847.

Dear Margaret,

I believe there is a French steamer to go that can as well carry a word to you from us as from others. And I have to thank you for the good letter from Florence,[150] which brought one to E. H. also. I am very busy in these days in setting my house*s* in order, before my English excursion, for it is determined that I should go to Liverpool in October, and houses carnal & intellectual must surely be arranged. For I am to read lectures according to "*numerous*" engagements, it seems; there should then be much to say. And when odd men, indulged men are to go away from home, it is with them a sort of day of quittance, when all their debts, pecuniary, social, ceremonial, the arrears of years must be paid. Garden, orchard, woodlot, peat meadow, all must be remembered, and the exigences of the next Spring provided for. As at a funeral or a wedding, one makes a census of his cousins. It is for our sin that these things are remembered, which should be disposed of as by a wave of the hand, if our errand were a little nearer the heart. What said the stout Luther, – that if he came to count his puddings like

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New England Bank," Boston. *Adams's Boston Directory*, 1847, gives Clark the same title. For the plan to have him audit the accounts of Carlyle's American publishers, see Oct. 30, 1843. A number of letters after that date refer to such auditing by Clark, long delayed.

149. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription shows that the letter was forwarded from Paris to Florence, in care of agents. The Florence postmark is dated Oct. 1, 1847.

150. Probably her letter of June 20, 1847, partly printed in *Memoirs*, Boston, II, 210.

Pomeranus, he should die quickly. You have always been magnificent & have not moped in corners, and so have, as you deserve, some good Italian sunshine & beauty & nobility to bask in. That you find the roads so smooth & welcome, & the climate so cordial, is a great happiness to us all. I fear I shall not see you till you have seen all, & come richly laden with all your conquests, & acquests home. I shall spend my winter in England, probably may go to Paris in the spring, or not till May or June, & I think it very doubtful if I take another step *from* home. America the great listless dumb lifeless America has urgent claims on her children, which, as yet are all unanswered. If by staying at home, or returning home, — they could be any nearer to a satisfaction! Do not think, as you will not, that there is any thing to tell of, not a blush on her cheek, not a morning hymn, not a dream of a nobler future — nothing has chanced to make the social state less sordid or to open man's eye to the prodigalities of Nature.

I can tell you nothing of Ellery. He & his family have disappeared for 5 or 6 weeks past & when he is gone no tidings of him ever transpire. I believe his wife is in Cambridge. His little book on Rome [151] is a pretty good success, is more readable than any thing he has published, and finds some readers & praisers. This perseverance of his in writing & printing, read they or read they not, is an unexpected indemnity which Nature seems to have added to our poet for some small discontinuity which she suffered to occur somewhere in these fine wires. Lidian has just come home from Waterford,[152] whither she went with Elizabeth H. whom she has left there. E plays through life the part of good angel. Our other parts are still sustained by the stock performers. Thoreaus book is not yet published. though now on the point of concluding the contract.[153] Alcott (in whom do you know a Palladio was lost?) is building me (with Thoreau) a summerhouse [154] of growing — alarming dimensions — peristyle gables, dormer windows, &c in the midst of my cornfield — for I have pulled down my eastern fence, alas! & added 2½ acres to my lot in an evil hour. In my absence Mamma will go to Staten Island for the winter, & Lidian probably continue to board with Mrs

151. See June 29, 1847.

152. *Cf.* Aug. 23, 1847.

153. There was, however, still further delay. William Emerson, who tried unsuccessfully to arrange for a publisher in New York, wrote to his brother on Sept. 29, 1847 (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson): "Please say to Henry Thoreau, that I gave his last letter immediate attention, and am daily expecting an answer of some sort from the Harpers."

154. *Cf.* Aug. 23, 1847.

Goodwin till my return. The Mass. Quarterly Review is resolutely pushed to light by Parker & Cabot & is to appear in December As they have used my name, I am sorry I cannot much help them at first. Charles Newcomb spent a day with me here lately [155] good & calm & superior & so quietly putting behind him into oblivion all defects. Every one else is a little penitent. Edward Bangs I like very much.[156] A letter from Sam Ward who has been strolling in the Adirondack Mts. Mrs Ripley remains a glowing domestic & scholastic centre. Longfellow is writing a poem.[157] Wilkinson has written a piece preliminary to Swedenborgs "Outlines on the Infinite" which you ought to see [158] Tis much the best piece of criticism on Modern Opinions, especially Transcendentalism, which has been written. If an equal painter could exhibit the other side of the shield, it would be the "sufficient reason" for the new Journal. Live well & long & happy, and let me know of all. Dear lo[ve][159] from all your friends dear Mother, Lidian, & Waldo E.

## To James Elliot Cabot, Concord, August 30, 1847 [160]

My dear Sir

Mr C. C. Hazewell of this town, formerly editor of the Nantucket *Inquirer* (?) then of the "Middlesex Gazette" (a democratic print in this town) and lately of a paper in Cincinnati, where he also undertook a Journal called the "Western Review," [161] is now again resident here. He spoke with me the other day of the new Journal, & said he had prepared, or was preparing a paper on Capital Punishment which he thought of offering to you for the Review. I encouraged him

155. *Journals,* VII, 321, shows that Newcomb was in Concord on Aug. 8.

156. *Cf.* Nov. 2, 1847.

157. Perhaps a reference to *Evangeline,* finished, at least in its rough form, but not published till Oct. 30 (Samuel Longfellow, *Life,* n. d. [c. 1891], II, 81 and 96).

158. "Introductory Remarks by the Translator" appeared in James J. G. Wilkinson's edition of *Outlines of a Philosophical Argument on the Infinite,* London and Boston, 1847.

159. MS slightly mutilated.

160. MS owned by Professor Philip Cabot; ph. in CUL. The superscription is to J. Elliot Cabot, Court Square, Boston, which agrees with the "27 Mass. blk." given as his address in *Adams's Boston Directory,* 1847. The reference to the new journal and other evidence show the year must be 1847, when Aug. 30 fell on Monday.

161. Neither the sketch of Charles Creighton Hazewell in *Lamb's Biographical Dictionary* nor Emerson's account of him in the present letter is entirely correct. *The Western Review,* a quarterly, was published at Columbus, O., by C. C. & G. R. Hazewell in 1846. The paper on capital punishment seems not to have appeared in *The Massachusetts Quarterly Review.*

to do so & promised to mention it to you. Mr H. is a man of talent & much habit of writing & expresses himself with force. Still I think it would be safest to receive his paper at first for examination, & refer it to your academical senate, which, of course must be presumed to be both numerous & competent. I will send or bring you a number of his Western Review, of which I fancy he wrote all the articles alone.

Yours,

R. W. Emerson.

Monday, 30 Aug.

## To William Emerson, Concord, August 30, 1847 [162]

Concord, Aug. 30, 1847

Dear William,

The Courrier des Etats Unis [163] comes duly & is very welcome as one of my French professors. I get on slowly but with some perceptible progress in the skill & the glibness of my tongue. Of all conundrums, the solution of a foreign language in the ear is one of the most delightful: how much better, when one comes to know somebody whose speech is well worth the translating & assimilating! Lidian has just returned from Waterford, where she has visited Aunt Mary with Elizabeth H. and was charmed with her visit; charmed also with Hannah Parsons.[164] Before she went away, & now since she has returned, she charges me to write to you to thank Susan & yourself, in the most special manner, for the more than Arabian hospitality of your proffer, and to inform you, that Mrs Goodwin will probably now go to Boston & leave our little company to keep house here. Lidian has invited Henry Thoreau to spend the winter here, & will probably take Mrs Brown to board. Perhaps she will be able to live with one domestic, Abby, but probably not. — With Henry T., she will need no thought for her table; but if she receive Mrs B — why then other counsels & provisions & offsets. I think I shall sail for Liverpool in the Washington Irving from Boston on 5 October. Ever yours,

Waldo —

162. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

163. With some changes in periodicity, the *Courrier des Etats-Unis*, of New York, has continued to the present day. For another of Emerson's "French professors," see Aug. 11, 1847.

164. Hannah Parsons's faithful care of Mary Moody Emerson is mentioned in May 5, 1863.

## To Theodore Parker, Concord, September 1, 1847 [165]

Concord, 1 Sept. 1847

My dear Sir,

I will endeavour to present myself at your door on Friday punctually at 2 o'clock in obedience to your commands. Can you as punctually dismiss me at 3h, if my needs require? [166]

## To Charles Larkin, Concord? September 18, 1847

[Larkin, Boston, Sept. 20, 1847, acknowledges Emerson's letter of the 18th and reports the reservation of a berth on the "Washington Irving," sailing Oct. 5.]

## To William Emerson, Concord, September 24, 1847 [167]

Concord, 24 Sept. 1847

Dear William,

I return you the power of attorney [168] executed as you desired.

I am much obliged to you for your kind considerations at my embarcation. With all our locomotive apparatus we seem to have been at least equally designed to stay in one place since removal & departure are so universally dispiriting. I hate it like sickness. Still this voyage of mine is not much It would be much if I were ready for it: But I am not. All my life is a sort of College Examination. I shall never graduate. I

165. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The address is to Parker, who had written two days earlier:

"Boston 30th Aug. 47.

"My dear Sir

"I suppose you will be in Boston next Friday & as I want to see you very much for the interest of the quarterly I wish you would come & take dinner with us next Friday, about 2. P. M that we may talk the matter over. We *must have* something from your pen in the first number however brief.

"truly yours

"R. W. Emerson Theo. Parker"

166. Most of the lower third of the leaf, which doubtless contained the signature, has been cut away.

167. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

168. This was a power of attorney from Emerson to William Prichard, it seems, executed according to a form sent in William Emerson's letter of Sept. 19, 1847, and acknowledged in his letter of Sept. 29 (both owned by Dr. Haven Emerson) as returned. Its purpose was simply to enable William Emerson to sell land on which his brother held a mortgage. The letter of Oct. 27 and 30 and Nov. 1, 1847, shows that Emerson gave power of attorney to Abel Adams for the convenience of the family in Concord.

have always some tormentors ahead. And now in these weeks having been detained tediously by reprinting & correcting & mottoing my old First Series, *Essays,* I came to the preparation of lectures for England — which would have otherwise been a great pleasure — too late & am sadly fretted with miscellaneous parts. And it seems at the same time something must be done for the Massachusetts Journal.

For our affairs, only Bulkeley needs to be remembered. I am sorry to hear from him that Mr Hall has sold his farm I know nothing of the circumstances nor whether it is to involve any change for B. I hope not. I will write to Mr Hall that he shall correspond with you: I have nothing to add to my charges for Bulkeley since our last settlement, I believe, except $1.00 paid for 8 yards cotton, of which you should pay half.

Eddie has been ill with dysentery but is now mending. We were all very anxious about him as he has no lignum-vitae in his little timbers. Mrs Goodwin leaves us finally tomorrow. I shall sail in the Washington Irving from Boston on the 5 October and shall probably see you again as soon as in ordinary years that is in the next June or July when you come by.

But perhaps you will come for Mother in the 1st week of October & see my fine ship. Meantime my kindest farewells to Susan & to the dear boys, and to you, my dear brother, if I shall not see you.

Affectionately,

Waldo E

## To Mary Botham Howitt, Concord, September 30, 1847 [169]

Concord Mass
30 September

Mrs Mary Howitt,

Dear Madam,

I received by the last steamer your note,[170] and

169. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. This MS, entirely in Emerson's hand, bears his notation: "Draft of letter to Mrs Howitt. Sept 1847." I have reproduced the canceled and the interlined passages as in the original, which is an unusually rough draft, only partly corrected. The MS which is presumably the one actually sent is listed and partly quoted in Anderson Galleries, Nov. 10–11, 1924.

170. Mary Howitt wrote from Clapton, near London, Sept. 2 (endorsed 1847), asking whether Emerson would object to sending materials for a memoir of himself. If he would coöperate in this way, the article would be published about the time of his arrival in England. She wanted above all to know about his childhood and

have to thank you for the ~~very~~ kind hand of welcome which you hold
from far.
out to me ∧. With regard to the very flattering proposition you make
it has my thanks but no such thing can
be gravely considered
me of giving my name & poor history a place in your Journal ∧ I am
no anecdotes no connexions ~~no experiences~~
no fortunes
concerned to say I have no history ~~to write Really~~ my course of life has
that would make the smallest figure in a narrative.
point or picture
been so routinary, that the keenest eye for ~~scene or situation~~ would be
All its/ [171]
at fault before such remediless commonplace. We will really say no more on a topic so sterile. I was happy to hear from my friend Margaret
if my journey brings
Fuller of her agreeable interviews [172] with you, & ~~I shall certainly not~~ be
not fail to
in your neighbor I shall ~~certainly~~ avail myself of your generous welcome.

All its happiness has been ~~its~~ in private friendships, & for the most part with persons whose names would not be known out of the State of Massachusetts.

### To Thomas Carlyle, Concord, September 30, 1847

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

### To Alexander Ireland, Concord, September 30, 1847

[MS owned by the American Academy of Arts and Letters; ph. in CUL. Printed incompletely in Ireland, *In Memoriam,* p. 79; and, with the omission of only one word and with a few alterations, in *The Critic,* XLIX, 235 (Sept., 1906).]

### To Bryan Waller Procter, Concord, September 30, 1847

[MS draft owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Printed, presumably from the letter as sent, in the autobiographical volume *Bryan Waller Procter,* Boston, 1877, pp. 294–295.]

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early home and she wished to have a portrait of him. For friendly articles on Emerson, but not of the sort that Mary Howitt had suggested, *cf.* a note on Nov. 3, 1847, to Adams, and see Feb. 10, 1848.

171. Emerson obviously intended that the last sentence of the present draft should be inserted at this point in the final version of the letter.

172. *Cf. Memoirs,* Boston, II, 183.

## To William Emerson, Boston, October 2, 1847 [173]

Boston 2 October 1847

Dear William,

I received yesterday at Concord your letter & the cheque inclosed, on the Massachusetts Bank for $139.38 (I believe) at all events I had the money & the account, — in every way satisfactory. It seems you also have experience of the delays of carpenters. Well, the work will be the better done. " Haste ' say the Mahometans " is of the devil; delay is from the All-giving." [174]

My little fuss of preparation marches on, every day a little, meantime the sky clears at last & perhaps by Tuesday we shall have good wind [175] I have made some sort of settlement of all my home affairs, have got a good loan of the Concord Bank have spoken or written plentiful directions for the care of things in the coming months and am almost ready for the weighing of the anchor & the sailor's song. It is a very happy circumstance to us here little Edward's returning health. — Yes I shall no doubt find some matter for letters to you as I go or stay, and always love. Goodbye!

Waldo.

I am to get letters of credit today from T W Ward & therefore my address will probably be care of Baring & Brothers Liverpool.[176]

## To Lidian Emerson, at Sea and Liverpool, October 21 and 22, 1847 [177]

October 21, 1847.

Dear Lidian.

Here is the finest of mornings after the best of nights and it has shown us poor sailors the coast of Ireland as we enter St Georges Channel. We have had the most prosperous & rapid voyage from Cape Sable to this point. The first four days of the voyage were quite lost with

173. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.

174. According to W. G. Benham, *Cassell's Book of Quotations*, 1914, the saying about haste is alleged to be from the *Koran* but is not to be found there.

175. The *Boston Daily Advertiser*, Oct. 5 and 6, 1847, shows that the packet ship " Washington Irving " sailed, as scheduled, on Oct. 5, with Emerson's name on her passenger list, " wind NW to NE and ENE, light." The letter of Oct. 21 and 22 tells of the four days wasted in calm weather off Cape Cod.

176. Thomas Wren Ward, father of Emerson's friend Sam G. Ward, was American agent for the Barings (*The Early Years of the Saturday Club*, p. 111).

177. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

calm weather in the near neighborhood of Cape Cod But on Saturday night we took a good wind & from that moment have made a speed across the ocean which the Captain [178] thinks so unusual that he has just now been drawing the line in red ink on his chart for the encouragement or for the envy of all future navigators. Every thing has been pleasant & prosperous aboard. We have had a very kindly & well ordered company, three ladies with nine children, four gentlemen and the Captain in our cabin; three gentlemen & a child in the second cabin; (which twenty one souls, you are to understand are entitled to walk or to be carried on the spacious quarter-deck.) sixty five in the steerage sixteen sailors and one little boy who had stowed himself away in the provision room for concealment, & did not appear until we were out at sea the second day. The prattle & play of the children who never seem to have been sick or suspicious of danger or even impatient of confinement one moment during the passage has been as pleasant as the song of birds, and the good fellowship of the cabin has been complete. The Captain is an excellent master, full of exact information about his ship & all that relates to Boston & Liverpool trade and so good a sailor as to make us all sleep securely, and the rather that since this ship was built, he has never taken off his clothes at night, at sea. For our company,[179] one of the gentlemen is Mr Kennedy a partner formerly of Mr Hemmenway (whom we knew in the summer) at Valparaiso. Another was Mr Pollock of Boston a young merchant; and Mr Watson of Exeter, a machinist. Of the ladies, one is Mrs White of Demerara, a sister of the last wife of Mr Russell Sturgis of Boston. The others are, I believe, Salem ladies. In the second cabin is a Mr Bartlett, who is a young colleague of Burritt [180] the philanthropist, whom he is seeking in England. And an Englishman of some connexion who is a graduate of Oxford. By night & by day we have exchanged experiences, and have all learned something. I find the voyage with all these alleviations quite tedious It is forlorn to have the room in which you stand or sit always sloped at an angle of from 20 to 40 degrees, and besides what seems some one at every moment actually tipping it up. At night in my berth home pictures come

178. Caldwell, according to a note in *Journals*, VII, 336, where, however, the date of sailing is wrong.

179. For George H. Pollock, see the letter of Oct. 27 and 30 and Nov. 1, 1847. The *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Oct. 5, 1847, lists "Mr. Kennedy, of Valparaiso"; John Watson, of Exeter; Mrs. James T. White, of Demerara, with four children and a servant; and "Mr. Bartlett," of Worcester.

180. Elihu Burritt, the American blacksmith reformer, had gone to England in 1846.

very palpably before me. The children I see plainly, & Ellen actually called me the other night to come to her & them. Eddie tells no bad news May none arrive of them or you. I cannot send you my rough & blotted scrap journal, it is pity for Ellen at least that I cannot give her my experiences here, while they are fresh. Tell her that I have seen whales spouting, schools of porpoises or sea-pigs swimming by the bowsprit & throwing themselves out of the water, great shoals or beds of mackerel jumping out of water by thousands Little land birds, sparrows & one pigeon woodpecker alighted on the masts & bulwarks of the ship & even took temporary refuge in the cabin. I fear they never came to land again. One of them I saw drowning in the sea.

On Friday, we came every now & then into floating drift of boards, logs, & chips, which the rivers of Maine & New Brunswick pour out into the sea after any freshet. The next day, I saw what seemed a tub with two ears, floating, but, on nearer inspection, it was judged a valise of who knows what traveller. When nature was exhausted, we retreated upon novels and Dumas, Dickens, & Marryatt are our sea-gods. I read Mrs Butler's " Year," [181] which Mrs Alcott gave me, with great pleasure & the Captain & passengers have read it. Then the book of Modern Painters, — which if any one wishes to know was written by a young man named Ruskin.[182]

But the reading & writing are soon tedious & we come back to the deck every half hour whilst the weather is clear. Tell Ellen that the poor boy who hid himself in the bread closet that he might go to England, though he had no money to pay his passage & not even a coat over his shirtsleeves, is working about very contentedly after the sailors, who have equipped him already in a Guernsey frock, with a knife in a belt buckled round his body. His name is Walters, and, it seems he is English, & came out to America, in *the same way,* in the " Ocean Monarch "; &, not finding republics to his mind, smuggles himself back. He says, he likes the work of the ship " firstrate," &, if the captain will take him, means to go back again. The mate tells me, that this is the history of all sailors. Ask them all their history, & nine out of ten are runaway boys: and, as he farther says, all of them disgusted with the employment, but stay in it out of pride.

Today, at noon, we have yet 234 miles to reach Liverpool. But instead of the bubbles along the ships side by which the passenger always

181. Frances Kemble Butler, *A Year of Consolation,* 1847.

182. The second volume of *Modern Painters* had appeared in 1846.

measures his progress at sea we have Kinsale, Cork, Ardmore, & Waterford. Ireland looks like a country as well cultivated & plentiful as Brookline & Brighton I see towers, towns, & grain & turnip fields, & fishermen, but no curse.

22 Oct. This morning finds us off Holyhead & the mountainous coast of Wales in full view. At 10 o clock we took in a pilot under the mountains of Penmanmaur,[183] but the weather is too thick to show us Snowdon.

And, after dark, we dropped anchor in the port of Liverpool, and in a little dangerous-looking dangerously dancing boat, first by oars & then by sail, four of us passengers with the Captain have touched the land. With all good thoughts & holy love to that which loveth us, and with all kindest & thankfullest thoughts to you, dear Lidian, & to Mamma and to the three blessed children, & to Elizabeth Hoar, and to Henry Thoreau & to every kind friend, may love & peace abound!

Waldo E.

## To Charles Lane, London? October *c.* 25, 1847

[Mentioned in the letter of Oct. 27 and 30 and Nov. 1, 1847.]

## To Lidian Emerson, London, October 27, and Liverpool, October 30 and November 1, 1847[184]

[1]Chelsea London 27 October 1847

Dear Lidian,

I found at Liverpool after a couple of days a letter which had once been there seeking me (& once returned to Manchester before it reached my hands) from Carlyle addressed "to R W E. on the instant when he lands in England,"[185] conveying so hearty a welcome & so

183. That is, Penmaenmawr.

184. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–XVIII are in Cabot, II, 501–505. Emerson's "Impressions of Thomas Carlyle in 1848," *Scribner's Monthly*, XXII, 89–91 (May, 1881); *Proc. Mass. Hist. Soc.*, XVIII, 324–328 (1881); and *Cent. Ed.*, X, was partly based upon the passage beginning with the second sentence of Excerpt IV and ending just before Excerpt V or upon the very similar unpublished portion of an entry in the diaries for 1848 (see typescript *Journals*). Much of this passage was quoted, but with a number of changes and omissions. *Cf.* also *Journals*, VII, 344–346.

185. Carlyle's letter of Oct. 15, 1847 (*C–E Corr.*). There was some confusion and delay because Ireland was unable to meet the boat. He wrote to Emerson on Oct. 22, 1847, from Manchester, that a telegraphic announcement said the "Washington Irving" was off Holyhead but that, as this was the day of publication of his paper, he could not get away from his office. "The bearer of this, however," he wrote, "a young friend of mine & intimate with your friend Thomas Carlyle, goes in my stead

urgent an invitation to house & hearth, that I could no more resist than I could gravitation; and, finding that I should not be wanted for a week in the Lecture rooms, I came down hither on Monday, and, at 10 at night, the door was opened to me by Jane Carlyle, and the man himself was behind her with a lamp in the entry. They were very little changed from their old selves of fourteen years ago (in August) when I left them at Craigenputtock and the floodgates of[I] Carlyle's discourse [II]are very quickly opened, & the river is a great & constant stream. We had a large communication that night until nearly one o clock and at breakfast next morning it begun again. At noon or later we went together, C. & I — to Hyde Park and the palaces (about two miles from here) to the National Gallery and into the " Strand "[II] to Chapman's shop [III]Carlyle melting all Westminster & London down into his talk & laughter as he walked. We came back to dinner at 5 or later, then Dr Carlyle came in & spent the evening, which, again was long by the clock but had no other measures[III] — But I can hardly write to you at all: London days are very short, London distances are so long, and, as the day & night are hardly

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& will deliver to you a letter from Mr Carlyle which he charged me most urgently to get put into your hands the moment you reached England. Mr Carlyle wishes you, I believe, to go on to London — This you may do as easily from Manchester as from Liverpool. Perhaps the best course will be to rest in Liverpool to-night, & come up to-morrow forenoon, & spend to-morrow evening & Sunday quietly here, when we can talk over your campaign, & you can then decide as to going to London."

In his MS *Note Book England Paris 1847–8*, where Emerson kept a pretty complete calendar of his travels in Britain and on the Continent during this visit, he noted that he arrived at Liverpool on Oct. 22, went from Liverpool to Manchester on the 25th (to see Ireland), and then, the same day, set out for London by train, where, after stopping for dinner at Birmingham, he arrived that evening, going at once to Chelsea (to see Carlyle). Under Oct. 27 he recorded the payment to Lane of the £92.17.9 mentioned in the present letter. On the 29th, according to the same jottings, he went from London back to Liverpool, stopping at Birmingham for tea. At the Waterloo Hotel in Liverpool his expenses were £2.1.6, paid Nov. 2, it seems; and on the same day he went from Liverpool to Manchester, to Mrs. Massey's. And so the record goes on in considerable detail. A calendar of his lectures in England and Scotland appears at the back of the little notebook, completing outlines of these months abroad. English newspapers would, of course, yield much more supplementary information than I have drawn from them; but a detailed study of Emerson in England, by Professor Townsend Scudder III, is in progress. — And since these notes were written, parts of that study have appeared: " Emerson's British Lecture Tour, 1847–1848," I and II, *American Literature*, VII, 15–36 and 166–180 (Mar. and May, 1935); " Emerson in Dundee," *The American Scholar*, IV, 331–344 (summer, 1935); " A Chronological List of Emerson's Lectures on his British Lecture Tour of 1847–1848," *PMLA*, LI, 243–248 (Mar., 1936); and *The Lonely Wayfaring Man*, 1936, valuable, both to the general reader and to the special student, for much information about Emerson's English friends which is not contained in my notes.

distinguishable in colour, there is every excuse for late hours & all & any hours to suit your own convenience. [IV]Here in this house we breakfast about 9, and Carlyle is very apt, his wife says, to sleep till 10 or 11, if he has no company. An immense talker he is, & altogether as extraordinary in his conversation as in his writing. I think even more so. You will never discover his real vigor & range, or how much more he might do than he has ever done, without seeing him. I find my few hours discourse with him in Scotland, long since, gave me not enough knowledge of him; and I have now at last been taken by surprise[IV] by him. He is not mainly a scholar, like the most of my acquaintances, but a very practical Scotchman, such as you would find in any sadler's or iron dealer's shop, and then only accidentally and by a surprising addition the admirable scholar & writer he is. If you wish to know precisely how he talks, just suppose that Hugh Whelan had had leisure enough, in addition to all his daily work, to read Plato, & Shakspeare, & Calvin, and, remaining Hugh Whelan [186] all the time, should talk scornfully of all this nonsense of books that he had been bothered with, — and you shall have just the tone & talk & laughter of Carlyle. He has too the strong religious tinge, in the way that you find it in people of that temperament. That, & all his qualities have a certain virulence, coupled though it be, in his case, with the utmost impatience of Christendom & Jewdom, and all existing presentments of the good old story. He talks like a very unhappy man, profoundly solitary, displeased & hindered by all men & things about him, & plainly biding his time, & meditating how to undermine & explode the whole world of nonsense which torments him. He is obviously greatly respected here, by all sorts of people, understands his own value, quite as well as Webster, (of whom too his behaviour sometimes reminds me — especially when he is with fine people —) and can see "*Society*" on his own terms. [V]Carlyle and his wife live on beautiful terms: Nothing can be more engaging than their ways, and in her book case all his books are inscribed to her, as they came from year to year, each with some significant lines.[V] His brother has ended his travels as a physician, and lives near them in his own house, a bachelor, & is a good scholar on his own account. He is getting out a translation of Dante into English prose.[187]

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Liverpool 30th [VI]But you will wish to hear more of my adventures,

186. See Oct. 14? 1844, and various later letters.
187. See letters of Aug.–Dec., 1848.

which I must hasten to record. On Wednesday,[VI] Mr Lane came to see me whom I had summoned from Ham by letter: with him I went up to the counting house of the Barings, presented my letter from Mr Ward [188] to Mr Bates,[189] who had much to say of my father, whom he remembered, & something also of myself, he gave me money on my account, & I paid Lane £92 " 17 s " 9 pence — (of which payment let this record be kept until I get it into my Journal at home) then, after looking into the Bank, I went to [VII]the National Gallery,[VII] and was there accosted by Alexander Bliss,[190] whom I did not at first know, but he brought his mother, [VIII]Mrs Bancroft,[VIII] to me, who [IX]greeted me with the greatest kindness, and insisted on presenting me to Mr Rogers, who chanced to come into the Gallery with ladies. Mr Rogers invited me to breakfast, with Mrs B, at his house, on Friday. The smoke of London, through which the sun rarely penetrates, gives a dusky magnificence to these immense piles of building in the West part of the City, which makes my walking rather dreamlike. Martin's pictures of Babylon,[191] &c. are faithful copies of the West part of London, light, darkness, architecture & all.

Friday morning at 9½ I presented myself at Mr Bancrofts door, 90 Eaton Square, which was opened by Mr Bancroft himself! in the midst of servants whom that man of eager manners thrust aside, saying that he would open his own door for me. He was full of goodness & of talk[IX] with news from America by the steamer, & his own theories to explain the English calamities in trade. [X]Mrs Bancroft appeared and[X] with young Butler of New York & young Bliss [XI]we rode in her carriage to Mr Rogers's house.[XI] You know how famous this old man is for his collection of works of art, and for his good company. I suppose, no distinguished person has been in England during the last fifty years, who has not been at this house, so that it appears to you like some modern pantheon. [XII]Mr Rogers received us with cold quiet indiscriminate politeness, and entertained us with abundance of anecdote, which Mrs Bancroft very skilfully drew out of him about people more or less interesting to me. Scott Wordsworth Byron Wellington Talleyrand, Madame de Stael, Lafayette, Fox, Burke, & crowds of high men & women had talked & feasted in

188. *Cf.* Oct. 2, 1847.

189. See the letter of Mar. 8 and 10, 1848.

190. Elizabeth Davis Bancroft, wife of the American ambassador to England, had earlier been the wife of Alexander Bliss, junior partner of Daniel Webster (Elizabeth Davis Bancroft, p. v).

191. John Martin, the English painter, was noted for his Biblical pictures.

these rooms in which we sat, and which are decorated with every precious work.[XII] The mantle piece was carved by Flaxman. An antique marble head Canova had brought in his own arms & set down in the place it now occupies. Sir F. Chantrey, dining one day here, asked Mr R. if he remembered the workman who made a cabinet for him? (which I saw) " I was that man," continued the Sculptor. Here are vases from old Rome, & some of the best pictures in England. And casts of the Elgin Marbles are in an excellent way let into the wall above the staircase, so as to be everyway examinable. Mr R. showed me Milton's autograph, and Pope's original bust, and autograph letters of Washington, & Franklin, & Mozart, & Fox, & Burke, & Dr Johnson, &c He read letters of Byron to himself & I saw original manuscript of pages of Waverley. And so on to any extent. [XIII] I think it must be the chief private show of London, this man's collection. But I will not bore you with any more particulars. From this house Mrs Bancroft carried me to the Cloister of Westminster Abbey, to the Abbey itself, & then insisted on completing her bounties by carrying me in her coach to Carlyle's door at Chelsea — a very long way.[XIII] I surrendered at discretion to so much real & friendly & graceful information as she gave me concerning persons & modes here. At last she set me down with injunctions to give you her love & to send her affectionate remembrances to Elizabeth Hoar also. At Carlyle's, I presently saw Mrs Rich, a daughter of Sir James Mackintosh. Yesterday, I was presented to Milman the sometime poet & historian of the Jews, & I am promised any number of introductions, when I return. [XIV] At 5, P. M. yesterday after spending four complete days with my friends, I took the fast train for Liverpool, & came hither 212 miles in 6 hours, which is nearly twice our railway speed. In Liverpool, I drank tea last Saturday night with James Martineau, & heard him preach on Sunday last. He is a sincere sensible good man & though greatly valued as a preacher[XIV] (I found pictures & busts of him in the houses of his friends here as if he were some great man) [XV] yet I thought him superior to his books & his preaching. I have seen Mr Ireland also at Manchester, on my way to London, and his friends. It seems I am to read six lectures in this town in three weeks, and, at the same time, three lectures in each week in Manchester, on other evenings. When this service is ended, I may have as many new engagements as I like, they tell me. I am to begin at Manchester next Tuesday Evening.[192]

Nov. 1, Monday Evening. I am heartily tired of Liverpool. I am oppressed by the seeing of such multitudes: there is a fierce strength here

192. See Nov. 3, 1847, to Lidian Emerson.

in all the streets, the men are bigger & solider far than our people, more stocky, both men & women, and with a certain fixedness & determination in each person's air, that discriminates them from the sauntering gait & roving eyes of Americans. In America you catch the eye of every one you meet: here you catch no eye almost. The axes of an Englishman's eyes are united to his backbone.[xv] So their speech & all their manners have a certain concentration & solemnity. If they bow in the street, it is no trifle, but a duty performed. They rarely introduce persons to each other, & mean something when they do, and they are slow to offer the hand. But I assure you the mechanics porters carters smiths & even shopkeepers have such a Patagonian size, that I can remember few Americans who would not be slight & insignificant figures. I do not think there is so slender a person as I in the 2, or 3,00,000.[193]

Dear Lidian, Perhaps I shall not get time to write more before the steamer sails, (in which Mr Geo. H. Pollock, who came out with me, returns, & will carry this letter;) so I hasten to say, that never was wardrobe or outfitting so carefully & affectionately complete as mine. Every inch of my trunk & valise is a praiser of your love & forethought. Only I have too many things, &, if I understood it well enough, would send some of them back. [xvi]Yesterday morning, I got your welcome letter (by Mr Ireland) [xvi] & today called on Barings here, to ask them to send immediately to London for the other letter wh. I shall not have until day after tomorrow. But [xvii]I am greatly contented to know that all is so well with you.[xvii] I shall write now to Abel Adams,[194] whom you should know I have left with a power of attorney to act for me in all cases, so you must refer any question on business to him. [xviii]Ever affectionately yours

Waldo E[xviii]

### To Harro Harring, Liverpool? November? 1? 1847

[Mentioned in Nov. 1, 1847.]

### To William Rathbone, Liverpool? November? 1? 1847

[Mentioned in Nov. 1, 1847. A letter from Rathbone dated Green Bank, Nov. 17, 1847, and another endorsed Nov., 1847, show the probability of further letters from Emerson, regarding a visit to Rathbone.]

193. That is, 300,000.

194. The letter to Adams must have been delayed two days, unless, as seems possible, the last paragraph of the present letter was written Nov. 3. Pollock sailed back to Boston in the "Acadia," leaving Liverpool on Nov. 4 (*Boston Daily Advertiser*, Nov. 22, 1847), and presumably he carried this letter.

## To Ruth Haskins Emerson and William Emerson, Liverpool, November 1, 1847 [195]

Liverpool, 1 November 1847

Dear Mother,

The kind Heaven to which your blessing confided me brought me safely to this English ground in seventeen days with every convenience on the passage which that rough sea which respects no persons admitted of. I was well lodged for a day or two in the Waterloo Hotel here, heard Mr Martineau preach on Sunday and on Monday went to London. For my adventures there during four days I must refer you to a long letter which I send to Lidian,[196] who will, no doubt, send it to you when she has read it to Ellen. London certainly offers me brilliant spectacles and the acquaintance of very desirable persons, and after I have fulfilled my northern engagements, I shall go there and see if I can live in it a little. But it seemed to me as if one needed a strong constitution to prosper there. Mr and Mrs Bancroft greeted me with great kindness and Mrs B. begged to be remembered to you with special respect; as if she took great pleasure in this distance in thinking of faces and forms so homelike and peaceful. I am yet a stranger here, and though some friends seem to speak of me in the newspapers, I do not know any one in this City except the Martineaus and a few friendly people in their circle. To Mr Rathbone, to whom Mr Wards letter was addressed, I have only this day sent my letter.[197] Tomorrow night is my first lecture, at Manchester [198] and I am assured of some ardent friends there whom I have not yet seen and whose friendship the seeing may cool. In England as everywhere, we must live by the glow and not by the fast,[199] by the old real nature of us, and not by our romances. The old tortoise has friends & advantages too as well as flying birds of paradise. Before this time, I think of you as settled for the winter in Williams new house and gratified by good hearts and so many fine objects and escaping, as well as I, one Massachusetts winter. My love goes to and stays with every one in the house. I do not now think I shall go out of England except homeward, but the months will soon decide. Never poor

195. MS copy in HCL; ph. in CUL. This MS, not in Emerson's hand, was endorsed by his brother William: " R. W. Emerson Liverpool, Nov. 1/47 (Copy) ."

196. Letter of Oct. 27 and 30 and Nov. 1, 1847.

197. For Thomas Wren Ward, see Oct. 2, 1847. There are two letters of November from William Rathbone to Emerson about arrangements for a visit to Rathbone's home. The visit is mentioned in the letter of Dec. 1 and 2, 1847.

198. *Cf.* the letters of Nov. 3, 1847.

199. Presumably the copyist's error.

traveller left home so amply provided with every article he must, could, would, or might want, and your careful *bag* can make the tears start.

Ever, dearest mother,

Your affectionate Son,

Waldo

Dear William,

Please to inclose 3.00 in this note [200] to Harro Harring, and then get some of your small myrmidons on the track to find his present address, and get it safely delivered to him by mail or by man, and charge the costs to your affectionate brother W.

Of course you will supply Mother with any money she requires and charge it to me who am her banker. But in February, when R. Haskins, Esq. pays her rents, let him pay them to you. R. W. E.

## To Edward Bangs, Liverpool, November 2, 1847 [201]

Waterloo Hotel; Liverpool.
2 Nov. 1847

My dear Edward,

For you must allow me an affectionate expression — me so far off & you so young, — I take the first moment that really serves me to recite the title of the book I neglected to send you before leaving home — and which is, as follows: Der Diwan von Mohammed Schemseddin Hafis. Aus dem Persischen zum erstenmal ganz ubersetzt von *Joseph v. Hammer.* Stuttgart und Tubingen, 1812.[202]

Perhaps the wish & the opportunity of reading it are both gone since your new studies begun; but I shall not be a party to your neglect of any the least of your literary duties, so you shall have it, if only as a reproach from the Muses to the Sciences. I spent four or five days in London, last week, and saw some rare men & things. I mean to go back thither, after some weeks, and so will not bore you with any ' first impressions.' But if you have any motions to send me word of your private studies or thoughts, I entreat you to obey them. The best address to me,

200. A letter of Nov.? 1? 1847. Various efforts to aid Harro Harring are described in earlier letters of this year. William Emerson replied, Nov. 29 and 30 following (MS owned by Dr. Haven Emerson), that the Dane had gone to Philadelphia to further his design of getting a government place and could not be located.

201. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL. The envelope is addressed to Edward Bangs, Beacon St., Boston. Bangs had graduated at Harvard in 1846 and took his degree in law three years later. The letters to Margaret Fuller of Feb. 28 and Aug. 29, 1847, tell of Emerson's special regard for this young friend.

202. A copy is still in Emerson's library at the Antiquarian House.

at present, is, [Care of Alexander Ireland, Esq. Examiner Office, Manchester,] and, after two months, [Baring, Brothers & Co. London.][203]

With best & kindest hope, Yours,

R. W. Emerson.

## To Abel Adams, Liverpool, November 3, 1847 [204]

Liverpool, 3 Nov. 1847
Waterloo Hotel.

My dear Sir,

Perhaps you have already seen that our ship had a swift passage across the Atlantic, of what the Captain, with his professional arithmetic, called 15 days, but which I called good 16,[205] — but everyway prosperous, & as pleasant as the case admits; good passengers, excellent ship, & fare;, and the Captain rose in our estimation every day. Here, I found good friends in Rev James Martineau of this place, & in a circle of friends about him; in Mr Hogg, the secretary of the Institution which had invited me,[206] and, after one day, I received a bundle of letters, which had already come from & gone back to Manchester, containing hearty welcomes from my correspondent there, Mr Ireland; &, especially, the friendliest invitation from the Carlyles in London, to come at once to them. As I found I was not wanted for a week yet in Liverpool, I decided to go down at once, and I reached London, 212 miles, in six hours, and spent four full days of great importance & satisfaction to me with Carlyle at Chelsea. — I have seen the Bancrofts too, & Mrs B. procured me at once a great privilege, in an invitation to breakfast with Mr Rogers, — the old poet, — whose house, you know, is a famous cabinet of precious works of art, — which I spent several hours in seeing, — And Mr Rogers entertained us with a crowd of curious anecdotes of persons. But my own affairs called me back quickly hither, and, last night, I read my first lecture in Manchester.[207] I find here a crowd of invita-

203. Both pairs of square brackets are apparently Emerson's own and are his customary punctuation for the purpose served here.

204. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

205. *Cf.* Nov. 1, 1847. The "seventeen days" given there is obviously the correct time.

206. Thomas Hogg had written to Emerson on behalf of the Liverpool Mechanics Institution, Oct. 27, 1847, asking the title of the course of lectures to be given. Presumably there was a letter in reply.

207. Emerson managed three concurrent courses in Liverpool and Manchester which are recorded in his MS *Note Book:* Manchester Athenaeum I, Nov. 2; Liverpool Mechanics Institution I, Nov. 3; Manchester Athenaeum II, Nov. 4; Liverpool II, Nov. 6; Manchester Mechanics' Institution I, Nov. 8; Manchester Athenaeum III, Nov. 9; Liverpool III, Nov. 10; Manchester Athenaeum IV, Nov. 11; Liverpool IV, Nov. 13;

tions to read lectures, that might fill every night in the week; but I refer every one to Mr Ireland, & I shall at first only accept a few. I have just taken good lodgings in Manchester, and have come down hither today to begin my course in Liverpool. When Lidian comes to Boston, she will give Mrs Adams & Abby all the particulars, great & small of my adventure, for I have written at large. Meantime you must give my love to Mrs Adams & to Abby; tell them that the faces & forms of old friends grow very dear to travellers in England; thank Abby for the beautiful purse which I carry with me, and, if Mrs Larkin is with you, remember me to her, & to little Abby.[208]

The best address to me for 2 months to come, is [Care of Alexander Ireland, Esq. Examiner Office, Manchester]

### To Abel Adams, Liverpool? November 3? 1847 [209]

*For my accounts,* I suppose Mr Ward will apprise you that I have drawn the whole sum which I deposited with him £92 " 17 " 9 [210] which

Manchester Mechanics' Institution II, Nov. 15; Manchester Athenaeum V, Nov. 16; Liverpool V, Nov. 17; Liverpool VI, Nov. 20; Manchester Mechanics' Institution III, Nov. 22; Manchester Athenaeum VI, Nov. 23; Manchester Mechanics' Institution IV, Nov. 29. On Nov. 30, after the completion of his course for the Liverpool Mechanics Institution, Emerson lectured in that city for the Roscoe Club.

Ireland, *In Memoriam,* p. 14, notes that the Manchester courses were " Representative Men " at the Athenaeum, — and " Eloquence," " Domestic Life," " Reading," " The Superlative in Manners and Literature," and " The Humanity of Science " at the Mechanics' Institution. Further interesting comment on the Manchester lectures is in *Howitt's Journal,* II, 370–371 (Dec. 11, 1847). *Cf.* also a note on the letter of Dec. 1 and 2, 1847. Martineau, who had first met Emerson in 1833, tells of the excellent impression the American lecturer made at Liverpool, and records that when Martineau asked him about a passage in his course on " Representative Men " Emerson replied that as life was too short to allow one to seek knowledge at the fountain-head, he was thankful for such an interpreter of Plato as Cousin, on whom he had depended (James Drummond and C. B. Upton, *The Life and Letters of James Martineau,* New York, 1902, I, 130, and II, 313).

208. *Cf.* July 2, 1852. A strip which has been cut away from the bottom of this leaf doubtless contained the signature. The final sentence is written in the margin. Its square brackets are presumably Emerson's own.

209. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The superscription is merely " Mr Abel Adams," and this sheet was obviously sent in some other cover. The reference to lectures shows that the date cannot be earlier than Sunday Oct. 31. In the week beginning Oct. 31 Emerson actually read four lectures, though only three remained after Nov. 2. He gave five the following week and four the next. The date is earlier, however, than Nov. 25, when, as the MS *Note Book* shows, Emerson deposited £70 with the Barings " for A Adams." I am inclined to believe that the present note was simply a postscript to the letter of Nov. 3 to Adams and was inclosed in it, or in the letter of the same date to Lidian Emerson.

210. Paid on Oct. 27; see a note on Oct. 27 and 30 and Nov. 1, 1847.

is money belonging to Mr Lane, which I received for him at Concord & have paid him here; and that I have also drawn £20.. one half of which, £10„ I have taken up today. I hoped that £10„ would have sufficed me until I should begin to receive money from my own works here but my London journey & my first days here are so costly that I have spent very fast. Now I shall have to beg you to let this charge remain against me on your books a little while, until I can pay it from this side, as I cannot let Lidian pay a dollar of her coupons which are due in December, for me. She will want them all, & very probably will come to you to secure them, if she finds any difficulty. As to these engagements they promise to be sufficient for my purpose. I am to receive 5 or 7 guineas for each lecture, & this week I read 3, next week 4, the following week 5, & as I said, very many engagements are offered me: So I a[m][211] in good hope not to be your debtor in this way but for a short time & to redeem my Atlantic Bk. share also & pay other debts after a little while. But I will write you again by the next steamer. Yours R. W. E.

## To Lidian Emerson, Liverpool, November 3, 1847[212]

Liverpool 3 Nov

Dear Lidian,

I was at Manchester last night & read my first lecture to a large & very sensible looking audience & made some acquaintance with a good many intelligent people. I have taken lodgings there, & that will be my home for the present. Today with great joy I read your letters & Ellens & all the good particulars you give me. Well I will try to find time to write Ellen a letter for certainly she has done what she could, & is a dear child; and it must be better things than any I find here, that will ever tempt me away again from home. You must tell Colombe[213] from me that I think it will be better, as our agreement is not binding on either party for any length of time, that we should settle the rent once a month. If the shelves are not yet put in the closet, you must ask Henry to make them — and if Mr Alcott declines the well-sweep, Colombe must make it himself, if he can, at my charge. But judge of all that yourself. All my time is insufficient for the preparation of lectures, so that I cannot write as I would, but to Elizabeth Hoar I shall send the Account[214]

211. Here the MS is slightly mutilated.
212. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.
213. Anthony Colombe is mentioned in *Journals*, VII, 306.
214. *Cf.* Nov. 11, 1847.

of the best hours.— if there should be any best. You speak of postage — never think of it; — send what letters you can. I have written to Mother [215] & to Mr Adams.[216] I shall send home the old carpet bag & some books &c in the Washington Irving to arrive about Christmas. Ever thankfully & affectionately

Waldo

## To David Thom, Liverpool? November? *c.* 3? 1847

[Thom wrote from Liverpool on Nov. 5, 1847, thanking Emerson for his *Poems* and for his "long & most interesting letter" about *The Three Grand Exhibitions of Man's Enmity to God,* one of Thom's numerous books of religious controversy. *Cf.* Nov. *c.* 24 following.]

## To Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Liverpool, November 4, 1847 [217]

Liverpool 4 Nov

My dear Sir,

I find here just embarking for America, Dr Nichol, who holds with so much reputation the astronomical chair at Glasgow, and, which is much more, stands very highly in the regard of excellent people whom I have seen here. In thinking of friends to whose kindness & courtesies I could commend him, I do not hesitate to give him your address, and with the request that you will introduce him to the gentlemen connected with the Observatory.

Ever yours,

R. W. Emerson.

Professor Longfellow.

215. Letter of Nov. 1, 1847.

216. Nov. 3 and 3? 1847.

217. MS owned by the Trustees of the Longfellow House in Cambridge; ph. in CUL. Before Emerson left America, he had received a letter from Eliza L. Follen, dated only Aug. 4, but endorsed 1847, asking support for Nichol's forthcoming tour in America (*cf.* Aug.? *c.* 6? 1847). The *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Nov. 22, 1847, announced the arrival of Nichol, Nov. 20, on the "Acadia," which had sailed from Liverpool Nov. 4. Entries in Longfellow's MS diary (Longfellow House, Cambridge), partly printed by Samuel Longfellow, show that Longfellow received the present letter on Nov. 22, called upon Nichol the same day at the Revere House, gave a supper party for him on the 23d, entertained him at dinner on Dec. 3, and read in his book on Dec. 16. For Emerson's interest in Nichol's *Views of the Architecture of the Heavens,* see May 6, 1841.

### To Theodore Parker, Liverpool, November 4, 1847 [218]

Liverpool, 4 Nov
1847

Rev Theodore Parker

My dear Sir,

It gives me great pleasure to make you acquainted with Dr Nichol, who fills the astronomical chair at Glasgow, & whom I have just learned to know among many friends who value him very highly. Dr Nichol entertains the good purpose of reading lectures to our people & we must see that all those who ought to know of their opportunity are apprised. And especially he must see the good friends about you, to whom I also commend myself affectionately.

R. W. Emerson.

### To Lidian Emerson, Liverpool? November? 4? 1847? [219]

Dear Lidian

This got left out of your packet. The sum of money named *80.* is not fixed. Tell Henry perhaps we can enlarge it.

### To Thomas Carlyle, Manchester, November 5, 1847

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

### To George S. Phillips, Manchester? November 5, 1847

[Phillips wrote from Huddersfield, Nov. 3, 1847, asking Emerson to read two lectures before the Mechanics' Institution there. On the 6th, he acknowledged Emerson's " letter of yesterday's date," thanked him for his willingness to come to Huddersfield, and asked what day he would come.]

218. MS owned by Mr. J. G. Heyn; ph. in CUL. *Cf.* the letter of the same date to Longfellow.

219. MS owned by Mr. W. T. H. Howe; ph. in CUL. The address, to Lidian Emerson in care of Dr. Nichol, fixes the date pretty accurately. Emerson must have inclosed a paper relating to an agreement with Thoreau which he had intended to send in the letter of Nov. 3 to Lidian Emerson.

## To Geraldine Jewsbury, Manchester, November 8, 1847 [220]

Higher Broughton
Post Office Street
2 Fenny Place
Monday, 8 Nov.

My dear Miss Jewsbury,

I am very much gratified & obliged by your kind invitation, and, (in my ignorance of Manchester hours,) will venture to say that I will call upon you tomorrow P. M. at or near 4 o'clock. If the hour is inconvenient, if you will name another hour in any afternoon, I will endeavour to keep it.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson

## To Elizabeth Hoar, Manchester, November 11, 1847 [221]

Manchester
11 Nov$^{r}$ 1847

Dear Elizabeth,

It is hardly fair to you to write you from the provinces, but as I am still far from London & am likely to stay here for many weeks yet, I may at least announce my good intentions. There is the firmest line between London & the country; for though I am in the second city in Britain for wealth & population, there is scarcely a name that will be known to you in all this district, excepting only Mr Cobden's: — and the little clique of the Examiner newspaper, who are all good friends of mine, seem to embrace whatever of literature or of social movement is to be found. The circle of people that I see here, are almost adorers of Carlyle, who has stayed a few days among them, not long since; and at least I am likely to learn whatever particulars of his history I did not know. — But him I had before, and I shall think my gain small, if England does not yield me something else. I find extreme kindness here on all sides, & though I live in lodgings, it is not for want of welcome to the houses of people. It seems almost a matter of course here, as soon as you are introduced to any person, that he should insist on your living with

220. MS owned by CUL; ph. in CUL. Nov. 8 fell on Monday in 1847, obviously the year of this letter. For later notices of Miss Jewsbury, see notes on May 17, 1848, and July 17, 1855, to Clough.

221. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

him, and I have many such solicitations, some of which I have promised to accept.

Dr Nichol I saw at Liverpool on the morning of his embarcation, a polished & intelligent man. Hitherto I have seen few ladies, as I fear I have actually dodged some kind entertainments that awaited me. But I am to see & be the guest of Mrs Paulet, a sort of sovereign dame among the best people here, & with whom Carlyle stays when at Rochdale; and she tells me she lives in the house which Canning formerly occupied.[222] And I ought also to see Mrs Rathbone who wrote the diary of Lady Willoughby. I have the kindest invitation from Harriet Martineau [223] to come & see her at Ambleside, *and Wordsworth,* But she is writing a book on Egypt, & I shall not think of going at present. I find also some small section of the young England that befriends me on my own account; — it must be very young England, but I have really found the most unquestionable good will. But I shall continue this note when I have seen what you wish to know. Meantime I am entirely your loving brother Waldo.

## To Lidian Emerson, Liverpool, November 13, and Manchester, November 16 and 18, 1847 [224]

Liverpool, 13 November

Dear Lidian

We are expecting every hour the Cambria [225] which will also bring me letters from you. Meantime, lest on the hour of the parting of the next boat I should have no time to write (for the 18th is a Soirée of the Athenaeum at Manchester whereat I am to see Alison, Cobden, Dickens, Jerrold, & other English notorieties, nay possibly am to make a speech myself,) [226] by the steamer of the 19th I must hasten to tell you,

222. For Emerson's visit to Mrs. Paulet at Seaforth House, and to the Rathbones at Greenbank, see the letter of Dec. 1 and 2, 1847.

223. Harriet Martineau had written from the Knoll, Ambleside, on Nov. 5, inviting Emerson to her home, where he could have much time to himself, enjoy the mountains, lake, and waterfalls, and see the Wordsworths. She was busy completing her *Eastern Life,* mentioned in several later letters.

224. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–II are almost the same as a brief passage in *Journals,* VII, 346; and Excerpts II–IV appeared in only slightly altered form in "Impressions of Thomas Carlyle in 1848," *Scribner's,* XXII, 89–91 (May, 1881); in *Proc. Mass. Hist. Soc.,* XVIII, 324–328 (1881); and in "Carlyle," *Cent. Ed.,* X.

225. The "Cambria," which left Boston Nov. 1, was delayed by fog at Halifax and did not reach Liverpool till the 15th (*The Times,* London, Nov. 17, 1847).

226. Francis Robinson, honorary secretary of the Manchester Athenaeum, wrote to Emerson on Nov. 13, 1847, asking him to address the meeting on the 18th. The

that all goes well enough with me, that I live both here & at Manchester, chiefly at Manchester in lodgings [227] at both places; which means, that I have in each place a handsome furnished parlor & bedroom, in which fire lights & attendance (& that of the carefullest) are furnished: then I add to the bargain that Mrs Massey (at M.) shall provide me with breakfast tea & dinner, which she does by buying all the articles I want, & making them go as far as a good wife would; – the roast of today is likely to come cold tomorrow, & hashed on the third. In the weekly account, you are only charged for so many pounds of beef, & bread, & candles, as were bought. She carries my letters to the post office, & discovers when my boot needs a stitch & carries it to the cobbler. In short, your landlady is general undertaker for you. Mr Ireland, meantime, stands between me & the good public; answers all applications from Lyceums, &c. & keeps me bright in the newspaper. I have a large penny correspondence [228] in this land of cheap postage, where letters arrive to you hourly from all parts of the kingdom for 1 penny, and many of my letters would much entertain you. A Birmingham society proposes to give me "a public entertainment in honor of my visit to this country," [229] &c.: some literary men send me their salutations; Harriet Mar-

account of the soirée of this November given in *The Annals of Manchester,* ed. William E. A. Axon, 1886, p. 242, mentions Sir Archibald Alison as the presiding officer, names George Cruikshank as among those present, and states that the version of Emerson's speech printed in *English Traits* "differs, to some extent, from the apparently verbatim report in the *Manchester Guardian.*" The indirectly quoted passages in *The Times,* London, Nov. 20, 1847, testify, certainly, to considerable differences, especially in the opening part of the speech. According to *The Times,* Emerson compared himself to a deputation of ruined Indians, who, amazed at the wealth and splendor of Boston, presented their plea to Governor Everett with the declaration, "We have no land to put our words on – nevertheless what we say is true!" A version of the speech in an unpublished section of Emerson's diaries does not contain this passage and also differs considerably in phrasing, though not in substance, from that printed in *English Traits* (typescript *Journals*). The introductory paragraph in Chap. xix of *English Traits* shows that Dickens and Jerrold were absent.

227. A picture of the house in Fenny St., Manchester, which was Emerson's headquarters for some months in 1847–1848 is to be found in *The Bookman,* XXIV, 101 (June, 1903).

228. Obviously, there were numerous letters of this period which I have not found, though many of them were doubtless to persons listed in the index as authors of extant letters to Emerson.

229. Apparently a reference to a letter of Nov. 8, 1847, in which Robert Wright, president, invites Emerson, on behalf of the Eclectic Society of Birmingham, to a public entertainment in celebration of his visit to England. Thus, though Emerson was no such popular idol in England as was Dickens during his travels in America, the international account was not entirely one-sided. And Wright's letter was by no means the only symptom of the English desire to lionize the visitor from overseas.

tineau has invited me by letter to come & see her at Ambleside,[230] and various young men write their fervent letters too plainly signifying what expectations I am doomed to disappoint. One or two of these young men I have however seen with real pleasure It was surprising that they were hardly to be discriminated in their speech & appearance from New Englanders; which is far from being true of the majority of my new acquaintances. — A certain good breeding & cosmopolitan air distinguishes all respectable people here from Americans of the same class, but by no means any superiority of understanding or culture. To be sure, I have yet seen but few; but [I] I shall not readily find better or wiser men than my old friends at home.[I] [II]And, though no mortal in America could pretend to talk with Carlyle who is as remarkable here as the Tower of London, yet neither would he in any manner satisfy them, or begin to answer the questions which they ask.[II] [III]He is a very national figure, & would by no means bear transplantation.[III] Give my love to my gossips great & dear, & say so much to them. [IV]They keep Carlyle as a cathedral-bell here, which they like to produce in companies where he is unknown & set a-swinging to the surprise & consternation of all persons, — bishops courtiers, scholars, waiters, — and as in companies here no man is named or introduced, — great is the effect, & great the inquiry.[IV] I have fallen in with one person, at last, quite superior, who would be superior any where, by name John Cameron, poor & now seeking employment — I hope he may presently find it — known to Carlyle & Milnes, and very frankly judging them both & all others — and reminding me in his talk so much of all you read me out of the " Noctes," one day, whilst I sat to Mrs Hildreth,[231] — that it is very clear to me that all the fine Scotsmen speak one speech, joke with one humour, and the " Noctes " is or may be quite faithful drawing after nature. Tis a thousand pities that such an observer & humourist as Ellery Channing should not see the extreme peculiarities of their style of conversation. What is odd enough, there are numerous individuals, — I now notice, — who, from anything that appears in their conversation, might have been born in Concord.

16 Nov. It is a strange drizzling climate, raining, I should think, a little in every day since I was in England; raining, that is, with every tide. The umbrella is as essential as the hat, when you go abroad. In doors, nothing can be more complete than the finished equipment of every house for comfort. Here in mine, you are to understand, I receive

230. See Nov. 11, 1847.

231. *Cf.* June 7, 1844, to William Emerson and later letters.

company to dinner, & to tea, and am established in great independency. I am often asked Why I did not bring my wife? If you would know more of my menage, I breakfast at 8, dine at 2, sup at 6, – all alone, except when I have invited guests. This is at Manchester, where I chiefly live. On two days, Wednesday & Saturday, I go to Liverpool & spend those nights there.

18 Well the letter must go Tonight is the soiree here. Yesterday I was summoned to dine with the Mayor [232] to meet Mr Alison (the historian) who is to preside tonight but could not go on account of my lecture at Liverpool. Only this morning I have your letter of 29 October very welcome as it brings such good accounts of you all. Edies letter – bless the child! & Eddies theologies. But I shall write you with more deliberation I hope by the next steamer. I am very glad to get a line from Henry [233] to whom I shall write soon. You do not give me one word of Ellery Channing. Love, dear love, to all the friends, & the babes. W. My letter by the last steamer will have answered some of the questions I believe.

Farewell, dear friend!

### To Robert Wright, Manchester? November *c.* 14, 1847

[Acknowledged by Wright in a letter written from Birmingham, Nov. 15, 1847, regretting Emerson's refusal of an invitation to a reception but expressing pleasure at his promise to visit Birmingham. For Wright's invitation of Nov. 8, see a note on the letter of Nov. 13, 16, and 18.]

### To John Chapman? Manchester, November 15, 1847 [234]

15 November, 1847.
Manchester
2 Fenny Street
Higher Broughton

Dear Sir,

I have no material corrections to make, & as my new American Edition is almost as good as I could make it, if the printer will only adhere to that text, I shall be contented without seeing the proofs. Neither have I at this moment any preface to set before it It is just possible that before you get through the printing my experience of your English people may suggest something not impertinent which will then be in time.

232. Sir Elkanah Armitage (*The Annals of Manchester,* p. xii).

233. I have not seen this letter. Emerson wrote to Thoreau on Dec. 2 following.

234. MS owned by Mr. Owen D. Young; ph. in CUL. The statement written on the MS by an unknown hand that the person addressed was John Chapman, the publisher, is probably correct, though apparently Chapman issued no reprint of the first series of *Essays* until several years later.

At present, I have only one erratum to offer: — On p. 205, of the new American Edition [*for* stringing *read* stinging].[235]

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson

I wish to have a few copies, — say, six, — of the Boston Edition of these First Essays: — Can you furnish them to me, & send them to me here? It would be a great favor. If not six, then perhaps three. It seems quite uncertain when I shall come to London.

### To Elizabeth Paulet, Manchester, November 15, 1847

[MS listed without year in Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge, Mar. 15–17, 1916. For Emerson's visits to Seaforth House, see the letter of Dec. 1 and 2, 1847, and a note on it.]

### To Thomas Jevons, Liverpool? November 20, 1847

[MS listed in P. J. & A. E. Dobell, Dec., 1923, and again in Dec., 1924. It is described as a letter thanking Jevons for the gift of some books. Jevons had written the same day from Liverpool, telling of his pleasure in the lectures on "Representative Men" and asking Emerson to accept a gift of two works, one a pamphlet of his own, the other an unpublished book containing some poems by his wife. According to the MS *Note Book,* Emerson went to Liverpool from Manchester on the day of the correspondence.]

### To William Allingham, Manchester? November *c.* 22, 1847

[*William Allingham a Diary,* ed. H. Allingham and D. Radford, 1907, p. 41: "*Wednesday, November* 24. — Letter from Emerson." Allingham, Donegal, Nov. 16, 1847, had apologized for the condition of Ireland and inclosed a poem he had written. But this was not his first letter if an entry in the diary dated the 9th of the same month is correct and complete. On that day, according to the entry, he had written to Emerson.]

### To Catherine Turner, Manchester, November 24, 1847[236]

Manchester 24 Nov.r

Dear Madam,

I received last night with Miss Martineau's note,[237] your

235. The brackets are doubtless Emerson's. The error noted occurs in the essay "Prudence" in James Munroe & Co.'s 1847 reprint of the first series of *Essays.* That reprint was advertised in the *Boston Daily Advertiser,* Oct. 2, 1847, as just published.

236. MS owned by Goodspeed's Book Shop; ph. in CUL.

237. Harriet Martineau, Nov. 20, 1847, said her cousin Mrs. Turner begged a line of introduction that "the inclosed" might be received with favor.

kindest invitation.[238] which I should make haste to accept, if I were not already promised to Miss Allenburrow,[239] for my first visit to Nottingham, and, I believe, to Mr Neuberg,[240] – if I am to stay more than a day, or to return again. But it gives me very kindly & happy thoughts, – that you offer me such an affectionate hospitality; and, though I might well fear that I should undeceive all your friendly imaginations, I shall not go to Nottingham without coming to your house to thank you personally for your welcome.

Yours respectfully,
R. W. Emerson.

Mrs Turner.
Nottingham

### To David Thom, Manchester? November *c.* 24, 1847

[Thom wrote from Liverpool, Nov. 26, 1847, acknowledging a "communication" received on the 25th and said he expected Emerson as his guest on Nov. 30. In an unpublished entry of a diary for 1847–1848 Emerson recorded what followed: "Mr Thom introduced me particularly to all his guests, &, on my return to Manchester, on the following day, I received a letter from him, – I think, of three sheets, – describing biographically all of the company, & not only so, but those persons who were invited & failed to come. This was a supererogation of hospitality which I never met elsewhere." (Typescript *Journals*.) Thom's letter of Dec. 1 is extant.]

### To Abel Adams, Liverpool? November? *c.* 25? 1847

[Mentioned in the letter of Dec. 1 and 2, 1847. In the MS *Note Book* Emerson records under Nov. 25: "To Baring & Brothers for A Adams 70..0..0."]

### To Charles Wicksteed, Manchester? November? *c.* 26? 1847

[Wicksteed wrote from Leeds, Nov. 24, 1847, inviting Emerson to be his guest on Jan. 3 following. In a second letter, dated Dec. 22, he reminded Emerson "of your kind promise to be our guest." *Cf.* the letter of Jan. 8 and 12, 1848. It may have been to some such friendly person as Wicksteed that Emerson wrote the letter from Manchester which is listed without date and partly quoted in Walter Romeyn Benjamin, Nov., 1931–Oct., 1932; in that letter

238. Mrs. C. Turner had written from Sentonfield, Nottingham, n. d. (MS endorsed Nov., 1847), inviting Emerson to be her guest. In a letter dated Liverpool, Dec. 24 (endorsed 1847) she recalls the two days he spent at Sentonfield. In an unpublished entry of 1847 in the diaries Emerson recorded her first name in full (typescript *Journals*).

239. That is, Attenburrow; *cf.* Dec. 3, 1847, to her.

240. See a note on Dec. 5 following.

Emerson wrote appreciatively of the cordial welcomes with which he was meeting but warned that there was much probability of shocking this favor by personal approach.]

### To Joseph Boult? Manchester, *c.* November? 1847?

[MS listed in Francis Edwards, Dec., 1918; Emerson declines an invitation to a Roscoe Club soirée. For Boult and the probable date, *cf.* a note on Jan. 28, 1848, to William Emerson.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Manchester, December 1 and 2, 1847 [241]

[1]Manchester 1 December 1847

Dear Lidian,

What can be the reason that I have no letter by this " Caledonia " which has arrived.[242] It is just possible that letters have gone to London & back to Liverpool, & will reach me tonight. " Care of Alexander Ireland, Esq. Examiner Office, Manchester." is still for the present the best address. You cannot write too often or too largely. After 1 January I believe there is steamer once a week; and if you enclose any thing to Abel Adams, he will find the right mail bag.

I trust you and the children are well — that you are well, — & the children are well, — two facts & not one, — two facts highly important to an exile, you will believe. Ah perhaps you should see the tragic spectacles which these streets show, these Manchester & those Liverpool streets, by day & by night to know how much of happiest circumstance how much of safety of dignity & of opportunity belongs to us so easily that is ravished from this population. Woman is cheap & vile in England — it is tragical to see — Childhood, too, I see oftenest in the state of absolute beggary. My dearest little Edie, to tell you the truth, costs me many a penny, day by day. I cannot go up the street but I shall see some woman in rags with a little creature just of Edie's age & size, but in coarsest ragged clothes, & barefooted, stepping beside her, and I look curiously into *her* Edies face, with some terror lest it should resemble *mine,* and the far-off Edie wins from me the halfpence for this near one. Bid Ellen & Edie thank God that they were born in New England, & bid them speak the truth and do the right forever & ever; and I hope they & theirs will not stand barefooted in the mud on a bridge in the rain all day to

241. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpt I is in Cabot, II, 506–507.

242. The " Caledonia " seems to have reached Liverpool on Nov. 29 (*The Times,* London, Nov. 30, 1847).

beg of passengers. But beggary is only the beginning & the sign of sorrow & evil here.

You are to know in general that I am doing well enough in health & in my work. I have, — which is a principal thing, — read two new lectures in the two last weeks; one, on Books or a Course of Reading, & the other " on the Superlative "; [243] which was my lecture on *Hafiz*, & my Persian readings. The next new one I get out will be " the Natural Aristocracy," [244] or some such thing. I have had the finest visit to Mrs Paulet, at Seaforth House, near Liverpool; where I was lodged in Canning's chamber in a grand chateau; [245] and also a visit to be thankful for, to Mr Rathbone,[246] at Greenbank;[1] and if Sam Ward, or any connexion of his, come into your sight, you must praise from me the thoroughness of Mr Rathbone's hospitality & the splendour of his housekeeping. I sat at table beside Mrs Richard Rathbone author of ' Lady Willoughby ' & had much conversation with her She was very kind but it was plain to see that the lover of the Puritans was a little archaic in taste, — quite too far back in the 17th century to love anything proper to the 19th. Germany was a horror to us.[247] The next morning, — for I slept there, — I was waked by the noise of birds under my window — chirping loudly in the holly bushes & shrubs; — before me, was the green lawn, running down to a small river, with a waterfall within sight & hearing; — &, on going abroad, I discovered, — for it was dark when I was brot thither in Mr R.'s carriage, — what a fine priory-looking villa I had lodged in.

2 December. Here at last has come to me the gracious letter & its contents, Ellens & Mamma's letters & my fine letters from Ellery & from Henry.[248] All good news, some of it best and from dear heralds grown dearer by distance & — shall I say — by comparison. That were very un-

243. See a note on Nov. 3, 1847, to Adams.

244. See Feb. 10, 1848.

245. When Canning visited Liverpool, he generally stayed at Seaforth House, then the home of the father of Gladstone, the future prime minister. The house was later let to the Swiss merchant Paulet. (Robert Bell, *The Life of the Rt. Hon. George Canning*, New York, n. d., p. 318.) There are extant some letters from Mrs. Elizabeth Paulet to Emerson relating to his visits. It seems that he was again the guest of the Paulets just before he sailed the following July (Conway, *Emerson at Home and Abroad*, p. 329).

246. *Cf.* Nov. 1, 1847. Mrs. Hannah Mary Rathbone wrote the various instalments of the fictitious diary of Lady Willoughby.

247. The German liberal movement resulting in the " revolution " of 1848 was already under weigh. This or German literature and philosophy may have been the cause of Mrs. Rathbone's horror.

248. Probably Thoreau's letter of Nov. 14, 1847 (*The Writings*, VI, 135–141).

grateful to so many new friends. But I must try to find time to send a letter to each of my correspondents, — on whom all blessings fall!

Ellen is a dear girl, & her poem [249] is a sweet jingle. O yes, she shall study Woodbridge & Goldsmith,[250] & when she has read of England & Rome, she shall, if God please, come out & see them, that she may know that they have few things better than her " faerie-land " by Ebba Hubbard's brook. — I have a large correspondence here, which, if I could easily send you, I think I should, by way of showing you what sort of England I live in. You will wish to know what Mr Bull really says to me & is to me. I confess I am much of the time in that unhappy state which evening parties throw me into, the parlour Erebus, and that *solitary infirmity* of mine Mr Bull is the last person to forgive. Meantime I find here a most unexpected number of personal friends. Also the most ridiculous panegyrics & exaggerated estimates of me may be found in print here, of which a book by Henry Sutton called " Evangel of Love," [251] was shown me, where I figure with saints & mystics of many colours. Meantime my reception here is rather dubious & by no means so favorable as Henry pleases to fancy. I am preached against every Sunday by the Church of England, & by the Church of Swedenborg,[252] and the Athenaeum & the Examiner newspaper denounced in the newspapers for letting in such a wolf into the English fold. Indeed I do not know but my friends Ireland & Dr Hudson will find some difficulty in realizing for me those engagements they first promised. — I have a letter from Margaret Fuller [253] in Rome who is in a sort of beatitude of rest after years of hurry. Harriet Martineau pursues me with kind letters & introductions of friends. I have I know not how many urgent invitations to take up my abode in various houses in various cities of people who have read my books! And now dear love to the lovely children and humble thankful honouring faithful love & respect to those dear persons

249. Apparently the verses copied in Jan. 24, 1848.

250. Both William Channing Woodbridge and Sir Richard Phillips (" Rev. J. Goldsmith ") wrote books on geography. The latter's *A Geographical View of the World* went through a number of editions in America.

251. According to Allibone, this appeared in 1847. Probably Emerson wrote at least one letter to Sutton, as Sutton, Nottingham, Feb. 2, 1848, accepted Emerson's " invitation " to visit him in Manchester, and there is extant at least one other letter from Sutton. *Cf.* also a note on Dec. 5, 1847.

252. Some of these comments are to be found in Clarence Hotson, " Emerson's Manchester Lecture on Swedenborg," *The New-Church Magazine,* LII, 48–58 (Jan.–Mar., 1933).

253. Probably her letter of Oct. 28, 1847, partly printed in *Memoirs,* Boston, II, 220–221.

who come to mind as really near you whether distant by miles or not. Tell me of Elizabeth, & of Mr & Mrs Ripley & family. Farewell!

Love to Mother & William. Waldo.

For business matters: I have sent Mr Adams some money to begin to pay my debts to him & others; with a letter.[254] I have asked him to call on J. Munroe & Co. & obtain their a/c on 1 Jan so *Henry need not.* One of my letters intimates that Colombe leaves you; you do not say any thing about it: nor do you say anything of Mr Alcott, or of the Summer house; nor of Mrs Goodwin Certainly let Henry use his discretion in letting Hugh have fencing stuff [fr]om [255] the bottom of the garden or the remains of lumber which Mr Alcott throws out.

### To Ellen Emerson, Manchester? December? *c.* 1? 1847

[Mentioned in Jan. 26, 1848.]

### To Henry David Thoreau, Manchester, December 2, 1847

[MS owned by Mr. Owen D. Young; ph. in CUL. Printed, with a few minor changes, in *The Atlantic,* LXIX, 741–742 (June, 1892).]

### To Henry David Thoreau, Manchester? December? 2? 1847?

[MS owned by Mr. W. T. H. Howe; ph. in CUL. Printed by Sanborn in *The Atlantic,* LXIX, 742 (June, 1892). This is a mere scrap without date or signature. Sanborn implies that it was sent with the letter of Dec. 2, 1847, from England; and this may well be true, in spite of the formal style, which suggests the possibility of a date as early as 1836. If the date was 1836, the work in the schoolroom referred to would have been done during Emerson's term as a member of the school committee. It seems that his only term recorded in the MS *Concord Town Records* (in the office of the Town Clerk) before Thoreau's death was the year 1836–1837 — he was elected Apr. 4, 1836. On the other hand, the schoolroom mentioned may well have been private; and the plausibility of Sanborn's date is greatly helped by the letter of Sept. 11, 1846, in which Emerson suggests the possibility of erecting a chimney in such a schoolroom, apparently in his barn.]

### To M. Attenburrow, Manchester, December 3, 1847

[MS listed and partly quoted in Maggs Bros., Christmas, 1926, where the year is given as 1853. This is an answer to Miss Attenburrow's letter of Dec. 2, 1847, from Nottingham, stating, for herself and her mother, that they hope to see Emerson on Monday and that dinner will be at five. He says he will try to accept. *Cf.* also the letters of Nov. 24 and Dec. 5, 1847.]

254. In Nov.? *c.* 25? 1847. *Cf.* also Dec. 31, 1847, to Lidian Emerson.

255. The MS is slightly mutilated.

## To Arthur Hugh Clough, Manchester, December 3, 1847

[MS owned by Mr. Arthur Clough; ph. in CUL. Printed in *Emerson-Clough Letters,* ed. H. F. Lowry and R. L. Rusk, 1934.]

## To Margaret Fuller, Manchester, December 5, 1847 [256]

Manchester 5 [1]December
1847[1]

Dear Margaret,

Your note [257] was most welcome, if only to determine the place of your star. I had brought a parcel, containing I know not what books from America, & did not know how to address it, but shall venture to launch it now into the distance, to care of Maguay Pakenham & Co. I misdirected a letter [258] to you, written a little before I left home by addressing *care of Welles* & Co, Paris, instead of *Greene & Co.,* as I ought. In England, I have kept my bad habits, that is, I have kept in a corner. Except in my flight to London, on arriving, where I stayed 4 or 5 days with Carlyle, and also was carried by Mrs Bancroft to Mr Rogers's I have spent all my month in Liverpool & Manchester: And though my time is all filled, and I have much to learn, & even somewhat to do, — I must soon extend my observations. These English are hospitable beyond any experience I had, or any authenticated tradition, — persistent & ingenious even, in hospitality; and I who have none of the talents of a guest, lurk in lodgings wherever I can. What have I for their dinner tables — what have I for their assemblies? They can enrich me by showing me their admirable things and persons; they can warm & domesticate me only by bringing me to persons who speak my native language, & love what I love. Few — few! Meantime, I am not idle, and, you are to know, I have written two new lectures here, or, anyhow, *composed* them. Tomorrow, I am to go to Nottingham & Derby, where, it seems, I have some special friends.[259] We shall see. Here A. Ireland, whom you saw,

256. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–IV are in *Journals,* VII, 368–369; II had appeared in *Cent. Ed.,* V, 405.

257. *Cf.* the letter of Dec. 1 and 2, 1847.

258. Aug. 29, 1847.

259. For Miss Attenburrow, of Nottingham, see Dec. 3, 1847, to her. On Nov. 16, Joseph Neuberg, later known as Carlyle's friend, had written from the same town asking Emerson to be his guest. According to *Journals,* VII, 358, Emerson met Philip Bailey and Henry Sutton at Neuberg's home. The MS *Note Book* shows that Emerson lectured on "Napoleon" at Nottingham on Dec. 6 and went from that town to Derby the following day, where, apparently, he also lectured. On the 8th he

who is an excellent person, the broad good nature in whose face & in the tones of his voice is often even comic in effect, — is really an important centre; and Espinasse [260] in the same Examiner Office, a friend of Carlyle, is a fine intellectual person. But a man named John Cameron, of Wakefield, is the most erect & superior mind I have found here, & yet he, & all the rest of this company, are too deeply indebted to Carlyle, and would be the better, like wine, for a voyage to India or to Nootka Sound. Alison I saw & heard, and found him a coxcomb. Cobden, too, I have seen & heard with a good deal of respect; he reserves his power, & seems quite ready for his beckoning opportunities. But after a little while, if I persist in this *metier* of traveller, I shall have, doubtless, notes to send you. Meantime, I rejoice in your beatitude, for so it seems, of rest in the old nest of power & fortune; — high & happy be your thoughts! Keen & true your glance's westward at your country's horoscope! But you must not stay alone long. In these days, the function of sibyl is to be sparingly discharged, and always from some domestical basis. Oh I have good accounts, this week, from Ellery, from Henry Thoreau, and all the good people of that bog of ours: — yet nothing concerning Caroline, or Elizabeth H., or Sam Ward. II The goods of that country are original & incommunicable to this — I see that well. It would give me no pleasure to bring valued persons thence & show them to valued persons here, but lively pleasure to show to these last those friends at home in their own place. II

Lidian writes delighted & delicious (if I must own it) notices of the children, and Ellen sends me her own poetry. [261] III Shall we not yet — you, you, also, — as we used to talk, build up a reasonable society in that naked unatmospheric land, and effectually serve one another? III In some senses I certainly do not grow old, — perhaps tis the worse for me — but, I believe, all the persons who have been important to my — imagination

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was in Nottingham again to lecture on "Domestic Life." On the 9th he returned to Derby, but was again in Nottingham to lecture on "Shakespeare" the 10th and on "Books" the 13th. At Derby, about this time, Emerson seems to have met Herbert Spencer. In a letter written from London, Apr. 12, 1851, Spencer recalled the pleasure he had in their short time together at Derby during Emerson's last visit to England. He had long been an admirer of Emerson's writings, he declared, and now sent something of his own containing sentiments similar to those he had found in one of the essays after his own work was written. *Cf.* also May? *c.* 21? 1860? and *c.* June? 1878?

260. Francis Espinasse reported about this time that he was seeing and hearing a great deal of Emerson in Manchester (Wilson, *Carlyle on Cromwell*, 1925, p. 408; *cf.* also an account of Espinasse in Wilson's *Carlyle at his Zenith*, 1927, p. 204).

261. *Cf.* the letter of Dec. 1 and 2, 1847.

— shall I say? personal-imagination (is there no such thing in just psychology?) retain all their importance for me. I am their victim, & ready to be their victim, to the same extent as heretofore. When we die, my dear friend, will they not make us up better, with some more proportion between our tendencies & our skills; that life shall not be such a sweet fever, but a sweet health, sweet and beneficent, and solid as Andes? — I will write to Carlyle, and ask the question you wish to put.[262] My task, which I have suffered my friends here to engage me for, may keep me in the North, till February. I have not even decided to go to Paris, but I probably shall. — I mean to return home by June, but I fix nothing: And lest I should not end at all, Farewell! Your affectionate

Waldo E.

I have taken advice concerning the parcel, & shall send it forthwith to Chapman at London, with request to him to forward it in the best way he knows. — I have friendly letters lately from Harriet Martineau. Do you know that Dr Nichol the Astronomer of Glasgow is gone to America to lecture. I saw him at Liverpool. [IV]I observe that many young men here look wishfully to America. But I never dare say to them, Go; though I might go in their position. I observe that the idea of owning woodlands, &c. is very attractive to the English imagination. Yet our young men find it all but impossible to live in the great continent.[IV]

## To Edith Emerson, Derby, December 9, 1847 [263]

Derby, 9 December, 1847

My dear Edie,

I have been walking this afternoon up & down the street which you see in this little picture, because the tower of the church called All Saints Church is so rich & handsome that I could not look at it enough. It is a great deal handsomer than you can think it from this print, and has been standing here three hundred years. In the high belfry, there is a chime of bells, & they played today a pleasant tune. I have a larger & better picture of it, but I am afraid the Postmaster will not let me send it in his bags. But the tune of the bells did not please me so much as it would to hear the voices of Edie & Ellen & Eddie again, and you was a dear little girl to write me a letter, which is a kind of picture of a voice. Here in England the grass is green everywhere, and I have had roses in my buttonhole, this morning, which were taken from bushes growing in

262. *Cf.* Dec. 28, 1847, to Carlyle.

263. MS owned by Miss Pauline Forbes; ph. in CUL. For Emerson's visits to Derby, *cf.* a note on Dec. 5, 1847.

the open garden. In Concord it is cold & snowy. As soon as the snow & cold are gone, I hope to come home again, and to tell you all about the English boys & girls. And you must give a kiss to Eddy from Papa, and tell him so.

Good night!
Papa.

### To Samuel Brown, Nottingham? December *c.* 10? 1847

[Brown wrote from Edinburgh, Dec. 6, 1847, inviting Emerson to be his guest. He wrote again on Dec. 19, announcing that the course Emerson was to give in Edinburgh would begin on Feb. 7 and stating that he expected to see him there on or before that day, " since you have been so frank as to express your willingness to gratify my wish."]

### To Joseph Biggs, Manchester, December 15, 1847 [264]

Manchester
15 December

Dear Sir,

I acknowledge the very kind invitation [265] which I have just received from yourself & Mrs Biggs, and shall venture to accept so suddenly your friendly summons to come to your house on Monday next.

Respectfully yours,
R. W. Emerson.

### To Lidian Emerson, Manchester? December 15, 1847 [266]

15 December 1847

Dear Lidian, I must write on this soiled paper as the only print I have been able to procure of Lord Middleton's beautiful house which I spent some time in gazing at last Saturday.[267] It is a house built in Queen Elizabeth's time, — Shakspeare might have seen it, — and stands in a

264. MS owned by Miss Maude Ashurst Biggs; ph. in CUL.

265. Joseph Biggs wrote from Knighton, near Leicester, Dec. 13, 1847, asking Emerson to be his guest when he came to lecture the following Monday and Tuesday before " our Mechanics Institution." The MS *Note Book* confirms these days, giving Dec. 20 and 21 to Leicester. The visit to the friendly Biggs family is recalled in Jan. 24, 1848, and in Apr. 8, 1863.

266. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. The MS *Note Book* shows that Emerson was at Chesterfield on the 14th of December and went to Preston on the 15th. But he seems to have stopped at Manchester on the way.

267. The upper half of the first page is occupied by a cut of Wollaton Hall, near Nottingham. *Journals*, VII, 357, also gives the date of the visit to the hall as Dec. 11, but the MS *Note Book* says Sunday, the 12th.

park 8 or 10 miles in circumference. The lords of it do not bear a particularly good name neither the last nor the present among their neighbors and they exclude every body near Nottingham from their grounds; but travellers from a distance are admitted to the park, and I spent my morning there amidst hundreds of grazing deer, and in the gardens & greenhouses. . The house is beautiful to see, but lonely as the deserted palaces of the Arabian Nights. The lord Middleton is a bachelor, and rarely here, and, instead of groups of children, & youths & maids to make the place alive & lovely, you must take up with swans & does. Kedleston Hall is another of these beautiful desolations, which I saw, the day before,[268] near Derby. Tis the seat of Lord Scarsdale, built 90 years ago, and the house, all through which I went, is magnificent; — and you must forgive me & let me copy down for you from my scrap of paper, lest I forget them, the measurements of the *hall,* in which you find yourself on entering the house. It is a grand saloon 67 feet by 42 within the walls, and 40 feet high, with the richest colonnade, on either side, of twenty huge alabaster corinthian columns, (made of the Derbyshire spar, of which Elizabeth Hoar has a little box,) 25 feet high, 2 ft. 6 inches, in diameter. The area, within the columns, is 60 by 30 feet. The whole style of the house, — library, dining room, state-chambers, corridor, chapel, — all full of pictures & sculptures, is suitable to this entrance — and yet Lord Scarsdale has never spent a night in the house, has no children, lives in some small house a few miles off, which he occupied before he came to the title, never or very rarely comes here, and the house has not been *open* since 17 years ago, when the Duchess of Berri was, for a short time, the guest of the late lord. The stately housekeeper who shows it, carried us into her room, the only warmed room, and we found three petted lap dogs couching on the sofas.

After this I went to Newstead Abbey[269] now inhabited by Colonel Wildman, (childless also,) who bought it of Lord Byron but I will not pester you with these antiquities; and yet you are to know that Nottingham is the town where Col Hutchinson in the Commonwealths time kept the castle for the Parliament, & that I have been in & on the said castle, or the remains of it, & down into Mortimer's Hole, which dates from a far older time. But I should not have mentioned them but to make the sequel to this vignette which you are to keep until I get a better one.

268. On Dec. 10, according to *Journals,* VII, 356.
269. On Dec. 13, says the MS *Note Book.*

## To Wiley and Putnam, Manchester? December? *c.* 15? 1847

[John Carlyle wrote from London, Dec. 20 (1847), thanking Emerson for his note of introduction to Wiley & Putnam and stating that he had received the sheets of the translation of Dante some time ago. Presumably the sheets referred to had been lent to Emerson and returned by him. It is probable that there was a separate note to John Carlyle to accompany the letter of introduction.]

## To Lidian Emerson, Birmingham, December 16, 1847 [270]

[I]Birmingham 16 December
1847[I]
11 o'clock P M

[II]Dear Lidian,[II]

I find that the steamer is to sail on the 18th [271] instead of the 20th so I shall not have time to write you at leisure, but must take this late hour (as tomorrow I am to be a traveller) to tell you that [III]I find very kind friends here & many such. I have even given up my caprice of not going to private houses, & now scarcely go to any other. At Nottingham, I was the guest on four nights of four different friends.[272] At Derby, I spent two nights with Mr Birch,[273] Mr Alcott's friend. Here also I am hospitably received; and at towns which I have promised to visit, I have accepted invitations from unknown hosts.[III] At Nottingham, I saw Festus Bailey twice at dinner: he is a singularly unprofitable companion, and does not *look* his book.[274] But the second time; we did better, & I respect him. But the pride of Nottingham is – young Henry Sutton, who has written the "Evangel of Love," which, barring its ridiculous use of my name, and also its Hebraism, is a strange original book, not without high merit of the moral kind. I saw him a good deal, and have bought his book to send you. He said to me "I like Alcott much better than I do you"; & tis pity for both that they cannot meet. They will, yet. Tomorrow I am to go to Huddersfield, where I am to see a Mr

270. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–VI are in Cabot, II, 507–509.

271. But the report of the changed schedule was incorrect if the sailing lists in *The Times* are complete.

272. *Cf.* Dec. 5, 1847, for the Nottingham and Derby visits.

273. A letter from R. W. Birch, Derby, July 11, 1848, invites Emerson for another visit. In *Journals*, VII, 356, a visit to Kedleston Hall with "Mr. W. Birch" is recorded.

274. A copy of the third edition of *Festus*, 1848, now in the Emerson library at the Antiquarian House is inscribed: "R. W. Emerson with the author's kind regards."

Phillips, who writes me several letters [275] & of whom, long since, Carlyle wrote me somewhat. I have letters & poems, too, from a young Irishman, at Donegal,[276] which I value. I have nothing very interesting to tell you. [IV]The newspapers here report my lectures and London papers reprint so fully, that they are no longer repeatable, & I must dive deeper into the bag & bring up older ones, or write new ones, or cease to read. Yet there is great advantage to me in this journeying about in this fashion I see houses, manufactories, halls, churches, landscape, & men There is also great vexation.

At any moment, I may turn my back on it, & go to London; and, if it were not winter, might embark & come home. So give my love to Mother, to whom you must send all my letters, for I do not write to her, and say I much doubt whether I go to France. Love to all the darlings at home, whom I daily & nightly behold I am much disappointed that no steamer yet arrives from you: it is overdue by a day or two or three. I dare not begin to name the friends near & nearest in these lines, — they are so many & so loved — but I have yet no letter from Elizabeth H. & none from George Bradford. Tell George that I respect the English always the more, the sensible handsome powerful race, they are a population of lords, &, if one king should die, there are a thousand in the street quite fit to succeed him. But I shall have letters from you, I trust, to-morrow. So goodnight!

W.

Alexander Ireland approves himself the king of all friends & helpful agents, the most active unweariable & imperturbable; [IV] his sweetness & bonhommie in an editor of a polemic & rather powerful newspaper is surpassing. I think there is a pool of honey about his heart which lubricates all the parts of his system, all his speech & expression with fine jets of mead. His good humour is absolutely comic. I live at Manchester still, & for the present shall continue there. [V]A wonderful place is England,[V] the towns are growing, some of them almost at the rate of American towns, and, in Lancashire, will by & by meet, & make a city as big as and bigger than London, and London is filling up Middlesex. [VI]The mechanical might & organizations it is oppressive to behold. I ride everywhere as on a cannonball (though cushioned & comforted in every

275. George S. Phillips had written at least three letters from Huddersfield in the preceding November, negotiating for lectures and asking Emerson to be his guest on Dec. 17 or 18, the days the MS *Note Book* gives to Huddersfield.

276. For Allingham *cf.* the note on Nov. *c.* 22, 1847. He had written again to Emerson on Dec. 5 (*Letters to William Allingham*, ed. H. Allingham and E. B. Williams, 1911, pp. 41–42).

manner) high & low over rivers & towns through mountains in tunnels of 3 miles & more at twice the speed & with half the motion of our cars & read quietly the Times Newspaper which seems to have machinized the world, for my occasions.[VI]

### To William Rice, Manchester? December? *c.* 24? 1847?

[Rice, Northampton, Dec. 22, 1847, asked a lecture for the Northampton Mechanics Institute. Emerson recorded in his endorsement that he gave an indefinite answer.]

### To Lidian Emerson, Manchester, December 25 and 26, 1847[277]

[I]Manchester 25 December
1847

Dear Lidian,

I did not receive your letters by the last steamer until the moment when my own must be forwarded, so that I could not write the shortest note to Mrs Ripley, nor to you. I shall write to her a letter[278] to accompany this. Sudden and premature and shattering so many happy plans as his death does, yet there was so much health & sunshine, & will & power to come at good ends in him, that nothing painful or mournful will attach to his name He will be sure to be remembered as living & serving, and not as suffering. I am very sorry that I should not have been at home, for he who was so faithful to all the claims of kindred, should have had troops of blood-relations to honour him around his grave. I think often how serious is his loss to Mother. I remember him almost as long as I can remember her, and from my father's death in my early boyhood he has always been an important friend to her & her children. You know how generous he was to me & to my brothers in our youth at college, & afterwards. He never ceased to be so, and he was the same friend to many others that he was to us. I am afraid we hardly thanked him; it was so natural to him to interest himself for other people, that he could not help it. And whenever or wherever we shall now think of him, we shall see him engaged in that way.[I] You must send this leaf to Mother that she may know how heartily I agree with her in all she will now feel & say of her friend & mine. [II]You must see Mrs Ripley as much as you can. We cannot afford to live as far from her (in habits, I mean) as we have done.[II]

277. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–X are in Cabot, II, 509–513.
278. Dec. 26, 1847, to Sarah Bradford Ripley, about her husband's death.

I fear that I shall not be able at this time to write you yet, those full and " private " letters, which you so rightfully demand. [III] I am a wanderer on the face of this island, and am so harried by this necessity of reading Lectures, — which, if accepted must be accepted in manner & quantity not desireable, — that I shall not now for a fortnight or three weeks have time to write any good gossip, you may be sure. What reconciles me to the clatter & routine, is, the very excellent opportunity it gives me to see England. I see men & things in each town in a close & domestic way, I see the best of the people, (— hitherto, never the proper aristocracy, which is a stratum of society quite out of sight & out of mind here on all ordinary occasions,) — the merchants the manufacturers the scholars the thinkers — men & women, — in a very sincere & satisfactory conversation. I am everywhere a guest. Never call me solitary or Ishmaelite again. I begun here by refusing invitations to *stay* at private houses; but now I find an invitation in every town, & accept it, to be at home. I have now visited Leicester, Preston, Chesterfield, Birmingham,[279] since I returned from Nottingham[2] & Derby,[1] of which I wrote you,[280] & have found the same profuse kindness in all. My admiration & my love of the English rise day by day. I receive, too, a great many private letters offering me house & home in places yet unvisited. You must not think that any change has come over me, & that my awkward & porcupine manners are ameliorated by English air; but these civilities are all offered to that deceiving Writer, who, it seems, has really beguiled many young people here, as he did at home, into some better hope than he could realize for them.[III] You may safely believe this, for it cannot be more incredible to you than it was to me, until I yielded assent to numerous testimony. [IV] Today is Christmas, and, being just returned yesterday P. M. from a long circuit, I am bent on spending it quite domestically, & Mr Ireland & Mr Cameron are are coming presently to dine with me. On Wednesday, I go spinning again to Worcester,[281] and then presently to those Yorkshire engagements, which at home were first heard of.[282] Parliament is now in holidays again, until February, &, of course, London empty.

279. For Preston and Chesterfield, see a note on Dec. 15, 1847, to Lidian Emerson. The MS *Note Book* shows that Emerson had lectured at Birmingham, Dec. 16, on " Napoleon "; 23, on " Domestic Life "; and perhaps on some other subject, 28 or 29.

280. In several earlier letters of December.

281. According to the MS *Note Book*, Emerson lectured at Worcester Dec. 29 and 30, returning on the 31st to Manchester. *Cf.* the letter of Dec. 31, 1847, to Lidian Emerson and *Journals*, VII, 361.

282. See July 31, 1847, to Hudson.

But it looks as if I should not arrive there for any residence until March. I am often tempted to slip out of my trade here, by some shortest method, & go to London for peace;[IV] but it has not yet been possible. I beg you will tell Mr Alcott, that I have seen Mr William Allen,[283] who bears his name in high honour, as, I believe, Mr Alcott was his guest, or of his mother-in law, — Parsons of Dalston. At any rate, Allen remembers him, and thinks him the most excellent spirit he has met, and also, if I understood rightly, the handsomest man. One of these days, I am to see Allen & his friends again; then I shall know what he thinks. [V]At Leicester I just missed seeing Gardiner, author of the Music of Nature;[V] I was promised an introduction. to him. He is an old man past seventy, & his townsmen think very humbly of him & his books. [VI]At Chesterfield, I dined in company with Stephenson, the old engineer, who built the first locomotive, and who is, in every way, one of the most remarkable men I have seen in England. I do not know but I shall accept some day his reiterated invitations " to go to his house & stay a few days, & see Chatsworth, & other things."[VI] At Birmingham, I saw a young man of genius Thomas Hornblower Gill,[284] who outweighed all Birmingham for me. His friend is Herbert New, a man who once addressed to me a short poetical letter; [285] him I have not yet seen. Apropos of Stephenson, Mr Mathews,[286] who most hospitably entertained me at Birmingham, promised me letters to Brunel, (who made the Thames Tunnel), when I go to London.

26. You are to know that I gave a very pretty little Christmas dinner, yesterday at 4 o'clock, to my two friends. It could hardly have been better got up by my own wife. This reminds me of your disappointment in not seeing Dr Nichol. Fail not to give me the sequel of that story. I fear he went to New Hampshire, than which no vexation could be more complete. [VII]Every word you send me from the dear children is excellent. Our Spartan-Buddhist Henry is a *Père* or *bon-homme malgré lui,* and it is a great comfort daily to think of him there with you.[VII] I have digested

283. In a letter dated Shiffnal, Dec. 16, 1847, Allen urged a meeting before Emerson should leave Birmingham: he must see the author of works he greatly relished and he must learn something of Alcott.

284. An account of Gill is given in F. M. Bird, "An Unknown Hymn-writer," *Hours at Home,* VI, 374–382 (Feb., 1868).

285. In his letter from Evesham, Worcestershire, Nov. 15, 1846, Herbert New inclosed some verses called "Expectation," written, he said, many months earlier, on hearing that Emerson was about to publish a volume of poems.

286. W. Mathews wrote at least two later letters to Emerson — Feb. 27 and July 11, 1848 — from Edgbaston (Birmingham).

all the news you give me of the Doves. — I sent you by the last steamer a newspaper which Mr Birch at Derby had preserved *for you,* & directed me to send it. [VIII]You ask for newspapers, but you do not want *reports* of my lectures, which they give too abundantly; nor the attacks of the clergymen upon them; nor the pale though brave defences of my friends; there are such things but I do not read them When there is if there should be anything really good, I will send it. But first there must be something really good of mine to build it upon! Ah me! Elizabeth has written the best & fullest of letters, & I dare not say that I shall write to her by the going steamer. Tell Ellery that I fear I shall not see Tennyson, for, though Dr John Carlyle writes me yesterday [287] that he has just met him at his brother's, he is going to Rome, and I hardly think I shall follow him there, He has not three children, who say all these things which my wife records.[VIII] I hear with admiration what you tell me, that Aunty Brown has given Ellen a piano. I have heard of such Aunts in books, but in real life it taxes my credulity. You tell me nothing of Mrs Goodwin, — whom you know I left without a boarder in her new house. I hope it is crowded full. [IX]Elizabeth says that Aunt Mary thinks to come to Concord; by all means, seduce her into the house, and make her forget, if it be possible, her absurd resolutions & jealousies.[IX] Also to her, Mr Ripley's loss will be most serious. I hope she will make Gore her agent; which you must advise. — [X]Here is no winter thus far, but such days as we have at the beginning of November. I am as well in body as ever, & not worse in spirit, than when I am spinning to winter lectures, at home. But mortal man must always spin somewhere, and I bow to my destiny.[X] So with all love & honour & hope & assurance, yours. W.

## To Sarah Bradford Ripley, Manchester, December 26, 1847 [288]

[1]Manchester, 26 December
1847

My dear friend,

I heard with surprise & grief of your loss & the shock with which it came, the greatest loss to you, & to all your household, —

287. Perhaps Emerson did not receive the letter till the 25th, but it is dated Dec. 20.

288. MS owned by Professor James B. Thayer; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–III are in *Worthy Women,* pp. 187–188.

without repair; the loss to me also of a dear old friend, like whom I have now few or none.[289] He was the hoop that held us all staunch with his sympathies of *family,* & with that disinterestedness which we have hardly witnessed in any other person. What rare devotion to his friends What a cloud of witnesses I recall who will thankfully & affectionately press his claims to almost the first place among faithful & efficient benefactors — I may well say benefactor, for in will & in act he was both early & late one of mine,[290] — & never otherwise.[I] I think we grew fond of his faults, so overpowered as they were by unlimited good meaning. [II]I know not where we shall find in a man of his station & experience a heart so large, or a spirit so blameless & of a childlike innocence. Lidian writes me very truly of the ' *opportunity* " of his death at the moment & in an act so characteristic. Yes, it is so; & yet he was never out of character, and, at any time, would have been found in his place. How sad it is, & will be! He had reached his chosen place, & all things were taking happiest form & order under his care. Tis sorrowful that such a felicity should be broken up, & that, you should be forced now to reconstruct your home. But he has not withdrawn far. He has identified himself so much with life & the living, that we shall find him everywhere a presence of good omen. My love to Elizabeth, & Mary, & Gore, and to all the children. He has stood by them until they were sufficient to themselves & has enjoyed their security & success. And now that he is gone who bound us by blood, I think we must draw a little nearer together, for at this time of day we cannot afford to spare any friends. I wonder to think — here with the Ocean betwixt us — that I have suffered you to live so near me & have not won from the weeks & months more frequent intercourse. I hope Lidian,[II] who is sometimes slow to express her real respect, [III]has cheered you by communicating her hearty affection for all she beheld in your husband. To my Mother — he is an irreparable loss. As I look homeward now, I miss a friend who constituted much of its worth & attraction for me. But I must write you again with more scope. Most affectionately yours

Waldo E.[III]

289. *Worthy Women,* p. 187, states that Samuel Ripley died on Nov. 24. According to the *Daily Evening Transcript,* Nov. 26, 1847, he died suddenly in a carriage on his way to the station in Concord, where he was to meet Thanksgiving Day guests. A sketch of his life is given in *Memoirs of Members of the Social Circle,* 3d series, pp. 1–24.

290. In many earlier letters Emerson mentions the aid and encouragement he received from his half uncle. See especially letters of 1826 and 1827.

## To William Emerson, Manchester, December 26, 1847 [291]

Manchester, Dec 26, 1847.

Dear William,

I was very glad to find your letter by the last steamer, grieved again presently to read the sad enclosure it brought. I have written to Mrs Ripley & to Lidian on that subject, and Lidian must send to Mother my letter to L. for I am sure we shall all feel & think alike. I am so occupied here with my own work & travelling, & with social duties so new & violent as the hospitalities from so many new acquaintances involve that, as you rightly guess, I shall be a bad correspondent. You suggest a means that is not quite available; I mean, the friendly newspaper that will chronicle my movements. The papers here all report my lectures in every town, but without remark The London smaller papers reprint these reports, and there is much criticism too in some of them on the Essays, &c; but my friends of the Manchester Examiner are quite as much committed as is prudent in this well-churched community in having brought this outside barbarian into the land, and they very properly leave him to his work, after having at first given him a manly & generous announcement.

I find great kindness here from various persons. I have a considerable correspondence with young men in England Scotland & Ireland on an intellectual basis. I am even asked, if I cannot *remove to England?* Meantime, as is just, my respect for this energetic race grows every day. And yet I am living in the obscure provinces. I read every day the Times Newspaper, which is a pretty fair transcript of England, & a chief product of modern civilization. Every anecdote relating to this journal interests me, &, first & last, I hear a great many. But of course I have seen nobody & nothing whilst skulking in these ignoble distances & shall only have a right to speak as a traveller when my initiation into London has fairly taken place. I shall not probably go thither to stay still until March. Give my love to Mother, & thank her for all her kind thoughts & wishes, and tell her I wish myself safe at home again every day. Love to Susan & to the boys, & a daily enjoyment of the new house! Thanks for your care in the matter of Harring.[292] In the good hope to see you soon, your affectionate brother

Waldo.

291. MS owned by HCL; ph. in CUL.
292. *Cf.* Nov. 1, 1847.

To Abel Adams, Manchester? December 28, 1847

[Adams wrote from Boston on Feb. 11, 1848, acknowledging this letter and discussing Emerson's finances.]

To Thomas Carlyle, Manchester, December 28, 1847

[MS owned by RWEMA; printed in *C–E Corr.*, 1883.]

To Elizabeth Hoar, Manchester, December 28, 1847 [293]

[I]Manchester 28 Dec.
1847

Dear Elizabeth

You are the best of sisters & good by yourself & without provocation.[I] I am always adjourning my returns & acknowledgments until I come into some shining sphere where my dross shall fall. For I think with joy how faithful you ever are to me in that *cloud* of mine at home, and [II]how generously you give me trust for indefinite periods. You must believe, too, that I appreciate this magnanimity, though too dull & heavy to make a sign. The hour will come & the world, wherein we shall quite easily render that account of ourselves which now we never render, and shall be very real brothers & sisters.[II] I sometimes think how glad I should be if I had a friend to whom I could tell things. Alas & alas, I have not health or constitution enough to bear so dear demanding a relation. So do not soar another pitch in your bounty, & say, you will be my abbess, & hear my shrift. I have not music enough to modulate the egotism which would grate intolerably without music, and I must mope awhile longer. [III]When I see my muscular neighbors day by day, I say, Had I been born in England, with but one chip of English oak in *my* willowy constitution![III]

Thanks for the letter full of sad and tender & cheerful specialties. All that you say of Mr Ripley is most true. Great is the loss to us all – and to Aunt Mary in chief, who probably will not allow it. In you only could she lose more. It is blessed to think that you cannot be offended, though all the rest should be. In that other world, I shall offer hecatombs in thanksgiving for lovers & believers. What you say of Rockwood, was heartily welcome to me, that he is strong & happy, & with good improvement in his wifes health [IV]I have seen many good some bright & some powerful people here, but none yet to fall in love with, neither man nor

293. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL. Excerpts I–V are in Cabot, II, 513–515.

woman. I have however some *youthful* correspondence, — you know my failing, — with some friendly young gentlemen in different parts of Britain. I keep all their letters, and you shall see. At Edinburgh I have affectionate invitations from Dr Samuel Brown,[294] of whom I believe you know something He saw Margaret F.; At Newcastle from Mr Crawshay,[295] who refused the tests at Cambridge, after reading my Essays! as he writes me. And so with small wisdom the world is moved as of old. In the press of my trifles I have ceased to write to Carlyle, & I hear nothing from him. You have read his paper in Fraser? [296] He told me the same story at his house, — but it reads incredible, & everybody suspects some mystification, some people fancying that Carlyle himself is trying his hand that way! But Carlyle takes Cromwell sadly to heart. When I told him that he must not expect that people as old as I could look at Cromwell as he did, he turned quite fiercely upon me.[IV] When I go to London, I shall doubtless find heroes & heroines to paint to you, but you have more in Concord than I know in Manchester. You should have given me one of Ellery's verses to Eddie. You should have added one word to tell me that your father is well. I remember him always with honour. There is a sort of people here whom we hardly have the like of in New England, — great manufacturers who exercise a paternal patronage & providence over their district. Such are the Brights at Rochdale,[297] whom I visited, and the Schwanns at Huddersfield; — best of their sort. And England will stand many a day & year yet, and tis all idle the talk of revolution & decay, for they have the energy now which made all these things. [V]If I do not find time for another note, am I the less your constant brother Waldo?[V]

## To Lidian Emerson, Manchester, December 31, 1847 [298]

*Private.*

Manchester, 31 Dec[r] 1847

Dear Lidian,

On this last evening of the year as I return from Worces-

294. Emerson had had some earlier correspondence with Brown (see Sept.? *c.* 1? 1843?) ; and on Dec. 6, 1847, Brown wrote again, inviting him as his guest and telling of meeting Margaret Fuller. *Cf.* Dec. *c.* 10? 1847, and various letters of 1848.

295. See Feb. 10, 1848.

296. " Thirty-five Unpublished Letters of Oliver Cromwell," in *Fraser's* for Dec., 1847.

297. Rochdale was the native place of John Bright, and his father had started a cotton mill there in 1809.

298. MS owned by RWEMA; ph. in CUL.

ter [299] I have just received & read your letter of 10 Dec[r] enclosing also Henry's.[300] I supposed I had made up my mails for this steamer before I left town two or three days ago & I should not now hurry to overtake this night's mail, but for news in Henry's letter, that my cheque was protested! Foul fall the faithless "Atlantic Bank"ers that would protest cheque of mine! I supposed I had taken accurate account, & had not overdrawn one cent: but if I blundered somewhere, they might have charged me interest, so easily. Meantime I have remitted money in two letters [301] to Mr Abel Adams, thro the Barings, and I now write at the end of this letter an order for the old amount on him, which Henry must forward after endorsing. I will immediately give attention to the particulars of his letter, & write again. Pray do not ask me for advice or liberty on the Plymouth visit. Do as you find it best and if it will relieve your heart to make the visit, by all means go. As far as I am concerned, I should greatly prefer that it were only formal; I mean, some thing to satisfy the consciences of yourself & your friends, & that the main of your visit for business purposes should be spent at the Samoset House. I have mainly but one rule, — Beware of people who take away your atmosphere. — Lovely are the details you give me of the darling children, and I beseech you to cherish Edie's mathematics with both your hands, and Ellens verses with ear & heart. And for Eddy's longevity which he covets, we will all covet it with him, or, if he goes hence, go with him. For letters, do as you will with them, only not print them. I have written by each steamer, & shall write. You ask me for news of my speeding with lectures. Set it down as very much what it is at home — always incomplete; perhaps something less even, here. The main end answered here, is, faithful seeing of England. Perhaps, I will soon write you more at large precisely what it is, — this lecturing. If I once get my f[ee]t [302] on solid ground again, see if you [catch] me adventuring!

Kindest thoughts and ah yet may kind deeds reward Mr Alcotts gentle spirit for his painstaking for his friend! — I hear today from Carlyle,[303] who is going for weeks to Lord Ashburton again. I hear today from another quarter that Carlyle wishes to go into Parliament. I was going to say to him when first I should see him that it was his right course. Sweet

299. *Cf.* the letter of Dec. 25 and 26, 1847.

300. Of Dec. 15, 1847 (*The Writings*, VI, 142–144), though there is nothing about the check in the printed version.

301. See letters of Nov.? *c.* 25? and Dec. 28, 1847, to Adams.

302. The brackets here and later indicate readings I have supplied where the MS is mutilated.

303. Carlyle's letter of Dec. 30, 1847 (*C–E Corr.*).

sleep & sweet waking to my babes & good meeting after a few moons more to them & their mother & me. You are always generous & good! Farewell!

Waldo E

Tell Henry that Palmer & not Lane is owner of Fruitla[nds.] He has already paid 3 or $400, and we only [hold m]ortgages.[304] But has Palmer gone?

More money for Hugh by next letter perhaps.

### To William Emerson, Manchester, December 31, 1847

[WmE List.]

### To Margaret Fuller, Manchester? December? *c.* 31? 1847?

[Described in Mar. 8 and 10, 1848, as a letter which was withheld till it was too old to send.]

304. *Cf.* June 14, 1847.